Friday, June 17, 1977
Jyaistha 27, 1899 (Saka)

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LOK SABHA

Friday, June 17, 1977/Jyaistha 27, 1899 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH SYANWALA (Ferozepur)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Income Tax Returns filed by Maruti Limited and other Concerns

*83. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the sources of income declared by Maruti Limited, Maruti Technical and Maruti Heavy Vehicles in their income-tax returns in the last three years;

(b) whether Government are aware that there are many other sources of income of the aforesaid companies which have not been declared before the department;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the accounts of the aforesaid companies have not been examined properly and the sources of investment and deposits have not been properly verified; and

(e) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Sources of income declared:

Maruti Limited:

Manufacture of motor cars, job work, and building of bus/truck bodies. Also rent, interest, capital gains, sale of surplus building materials etc.

Maruti Technical Services (Pvt.) Limited:

Remuneration for technical service and know-how from Maruti Limited; sale of photo-copying machines and petrol savers etc.

Maruti Heavy Vehicles (Pvt.) Limited.

Manufacture and sale of road rollers.

(b) and (c). Various reports have appeared in the press regarding the activities of these companies. These will be kept in view while completing the relevant assessment proceedings.

(d) and (e). Assesments have been made in the ordinary course upto 1973-74 in the case of Maruti Limited and 1974-75 in the case of Maruti Technical Services (Pvt.) Limited. No assessment has been made in the case of Maruti Heavy Vehicles (Pvt.) Limited.

The Special Cell in the Directorate of Inspection (Investigation) is now watching and guiding the investigation in these cases.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: I want to protest. He has not answered my question properly. If I may invite your kind attention to parts (c) and (d) of the Question—I asked:

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether the accounts of the aforesaid companies have not been examined properly and the sources of investment and deposits have not been properly verified;

Kindly look at his reply at (d) and (e). He only says that the assessment has been made properly. He does not say whether the deposits and sources have been verified or not. He has not replied to it. It seems that the answer has been framed by Sanjay himself, and not by our own Minister; it looks like that. The question is:

"Whether Government are aware that there are many other sources of income of the aforesaid companies which have not been declared before the department;"

What is the answer? It says:

"Various reports have appeared regarding the activities of these companies. These will be kept in view while completing the relevant assessment procedeings."

Sir, as you know, there were not only press reports but a discussion took place on the floor of this House. There are many reports and many complaints with the Government, with his department. He should have referred to all those things. Why does he want to hide all those things? If he is ready with his reply, let him answer it. Otherwise, let it be postponed to a future date. I do not want this answer.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I am sorry that the hon. Member is not satisfied with the answer.

MR. SPEAKER: In any case, there is nothing shady in it.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I may assure him that these replies have not been drafted by Shri Sanjay. This much I can assure him.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Was it drafted by Shri Kanwar Lal Gupta?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: It is possible that I have not given the hon. Member all the answers that he desires. But his question is about the sources of income "declared". I have given him the sources of income "declared". Assessments have been completed for 1973-74. Various activities, developments, may have taken place in 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77. Those will come to light as and when the accounts come, as the returns are submitted and the returns are examined. Until then to say that I am trying to evade giving a reply is perhaps not quite fair.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): May I tell my hon. friend that the use of a wrong world does not redound to his credit and to the credit of the House?

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Let me ask the question. In the accounting year 1975-76 the total deposits with Maruti comes to Rs. 4.26 crores. May I know whether the Government have verified the sources of these credits or not? Secondly, if the Government is not in a position to verify these sources, will the Government reopen their cases, along with the cases of the Directors, and, if not why not?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I would like to clarify the position. For the assessment year 1972-73 the return showed a loss of Rs. 7,27,380 and the loss which was accepted was Rs. 7,05,444. For 1973-74 the loss mentioned in the return was Rs. 25,89,000 and the loss accepted was Rs. 25,070. For 1974-75 the loss clamied in the return is Rs. 60,35,000 and the assessment is pending. For 1975-76 the loss claimed is Rs. 1,43,37,000. The assessment is pending. For 1976-77 the loss claimed is Rs. 2,38,00,000. The assessment is pending.

As I said in my reply, we have set up a Special Cell, which is investigating the case. In fact, a special set of officers have been asigned this work of going through these things. A cell in the Directorate of Inspection (Investigation) also has been set up to guide and investigate all these returns. It is only when the examination of these returns is finally completed that one can give you the kind of answer that yau may desire.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: I asked the question whether the credits were verified by the department in those years the assessment for which has been completed.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: When the assessment is pending, it means....

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: It was completed.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The returns have to be examined. The returns contain a number of entries. It is not possible to say which particular entry has been examined. If he had given me a specific notice beforehand about particular items, I would have made special enquiries and found out.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : क्या यह बात सही है कि मारुति टैक्नीकल सर्विस ने पैट्रोल सेवर्स की सेल की है, जैसा कि आप ने जवाब में दिया है, तो यह सेल रशिया में भी की गई जब श्री संजय रशिया गए थे और 7, 8 लाख रु० के बेचे गए, हिन्दुस्तान में भी बेचे गए और यह पैट्रोल सेवर्स इन्होंने धानुका से 5 ३0 में खरीदे और 45 रू में बेचे। क्या यह बात सही है? क्या मंत्री जी तीनों कम्पनियों के सारे रेकार्ड सभा पटल पर रखेंगे क्योंकि यह पब्लिक इन्टरेस्ट की चीज़ है?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have no information whether Mr. Sanjay Gandhi sold his petrol savers in Russia. As to whether the returns will be placed on the Table of the House. I shall consider the matter.

श्री मनोहर लाल : क्या यह सही है कि मारुति लिमिटेड को जहां अन्य सूत्रों से पैसा मिला वहीं पंजाब नेशनल बैंक से एक करोड़ रु० 2 परसेन्ट कम ब्याज पर श्री तुली ने दिया? यदि हां तो उनके खिलाफ़ क्या कार्यवाही की जाएगी?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have no information on this subject. I shall certainly take note of it and see if it is so.

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि जब वह रिटर्न देंगे तो फिर वेरीफ़ाई करेंगे। तो 1973-74 के रिटर्न तो आ गए, कानून के मुताबिक हर रिटर्न उसी साल में 30 अप्रैल तक आना चाहिए। तो मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि वह वेरीफ़ाई करेंगे, रिटर्न सब आ चुके हैं, तो क्यों इन्होंने गलत जवाब दिया है? क्या इसके बारे में जांच करेंगे कि उसके असेसमेंट में देरी क्यों हो रही है? क्या मंत्री जी यह भी बतायेंगे कि जो मारुति लिमिटेड ने बाहर एजेन्सीज़ बेची हैं वह कानूनी तौर पर गलत था और जिस के लिए वह रुपया नहीं ले सकते थे जब तक कि उनका माल तैयार नहीं होता। तो जो एजेन्सीज़ वालों से रुपया लिया गया। है . .

MR. SPEAKER: You are giving information, you are not asking a question.

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह : मैं यही बता रहा हूं कि जो रुपया लिया गया है वह इल्लीगल लिया गया है, क्या सरकार इस बारे में जांच करायगी और कोई एक्शन लेगी?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: As I said, assessments are pending, which means that the returns have been submitted and those returns are under scrutiny. As the returns and the scrutiny are of a complicated nature. It is bound to take some time and hence the delay. It cannot be finished within the time he has in mind.

As regards the dealerships, the accretion in unsecured loans and dealership deposits during the year ending 31-3-1974 amounted to Rs. 40,15,000 and Rs. 54,80,000 respectively. As

details were not furnished by the company, the income-tax officer on his own added the figures and proposed to add Rs. 94,95,000 in that year. These are now matters which will be examined.

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह : कितना समय आप लेंगे ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I am afraid I cannot tell you.

MR. SPEAKER: He has no information. There is no use putting questions. He will say, "We will enquire into it".

फाइव स्टार होटल के जनरल मैनेजर के रूप में एक रिसेप्शनिस्ट की पदोन्नति :

***84. श्री शिव नारायण सरसूनिया :**
श्री अरविंद बाला मजनौर :

क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या एक रिसेप्शनिस्ट की सरकारी क्षेत्र के फाइव स्टार होटलों के प्रभावी जनरल मैनेजर के पद पर पदोन्नति हुई जैसा 30 अप्रैल, 1977 के 'हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स' में समाचार छपा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इतनी ऊंची पदोन्नति ऐसी वरिष्ठ नियुक्तियों संबंधी नियमों तथा विनियमों के अनुसार है ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं तो अनियमितताओं के बारे में यदि कोई हों, क्या कार्रवाई की गई है अथवा करने का विचार है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम के वर्तमान महाप्रबन्धक (होटल्स) ने लगभग 20 वर्ष की आयु में सितम्बर, 1947 में सम्पदा निदेशालय के अन्तर्गत भारत सरकार होस्टल, दिल्ली में एक स्वागती (रिसेप्शनिस्ट) के रूप में सेवा आरम्भ की थी ।

(ख) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

(ग) फिलहाल कोई कार्रवाई करने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता । अपेक्षित सूचना एकत्रित कर ली जाने पर ही इस प्रश्न पर विचार किया जाएगा ।

श्री शिव नारायण सरसूनिया : मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूं वह रिसेप्शनिस्ट एक महिला हैं जो दिल्ली के एक डी०आई जी० की पत्नी हैं और कांग्रेस वासेज श्री संजय गांधी की गुड बुक्स में थीं, क्या इसी कारण इनको इतनी बड़ी जिम्मेदारी की प्रमोशन मिली ?

क्या इसी कारण यह सब लोग इस होटल में इकटठे होते थे और वहां बैठकर जितने दूसरे राजनीतिक लोग थे, उनकी बरबादी की योजना बनाते थे ?

इस इमर्जेन्सी के दौरान वहां पर कितने कार्यक्रम नसबन्दी के बारे में और वी० आई० पीज० के बारे में हुए और उन पर कितना रुपया खर्च हुआ ?

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : इस होटल के सम्बध में कुछ पदोन्नितयों, नियुक्तियों और अन्य मामलों के बारे में शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई थीं, जिनके बारे में सी०बी०आई० द्वारा जांच की जा रही है। मैं समझता हूं कि इस जांच के दौरान सब वास्तविकता का पता लग जायेगा और उसके बाद जो आवश्यक कार्यवाही होगी वह निश्चित रूप से की जायगी ।

श्री शिव नारायण सरसूनिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया ।

मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि कितना रुपया खर्च हुआ ?

MR. SPEAKER: Can you give some figures?

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : अभी कोई जानकारी नहीं है ।

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : अभी कोई जानकारी नहीं है।

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: The ITDC is notorious for being an institution where very big scale corruption is taking place. So, I would like the hon. Minister to enlighten this House as to what happened to the CBI enquiry against the former General Manager of the ITDC.

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: I require notice for that.

श्री गौरी शंकर राय : मान्यवर, जब इसकी जांच खुफिया से हो रही है, तो सम्भव है मंत्री जी को प्राइमाफेसी कुछ मालूम हुआ होगा। क्या सरकार समझती है कि प्रमोशन अनुचित हुई होगी या नहीं हुई होगी ? अगर सरकार इस प्रमोशन को अनुचित समझती तो फिलहाल इन्क्वायरी के दौरान उस व्यक्ति का क्या स्टेट्स है ?

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : सी० बी० आई० को जो मामला दिया गया है, उसमें निवेदन किया गया है कि वह प्राथमिक रिपोर्ट दे, लेकिन अभी यह प्राथमिक रिपोर्ट मिली नहीं है। उसके बाद बता सकेंगे कि कौन जिम्मेदार है और कैसे है।

श्री रामधारी शास्त्री : प्रश्न के भाग 'ख' में यह है कि क्या इतनी ऊंची पदोन्नति ऐसी वरिष्ठ नियुक्तियों सम्बन्धी नियमों तथा विनियमों के अनुसार है? इसके जवाब में मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में क्या सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है, क्या नियम वगैरा नहीं बने हुए हैं ?

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : कुछ फाइलें सी० बी० आई० ने जांच के लिए अपने पास रख ली हैं। ऐसी शिकायतें मिली थी कि जांच की जायें। अतः संबंधित फाइलें सी० बी० आई० के पास हैं, इसलिए इस सम्बन्ध में इन्फार्मेशन कलैक्ट नहीं कर पाये हैं। जैसे ही सी० बी० आई० की रिपोर्ट मिलेगी, बहुत शीघ्र ही जानकारी सदन पटल पर रख देंगे।

श्री रामधारी शास्त्री : प्रश्न का भाग (ख) इस प्रकार है : "यदि हां, तो क्या इतनी ऊंची पदोन्नति ऐसी वरिष्ठ नियुक्तियों संबंधी नियमों तथा विनियमों के अनुसार है।" यह तो रूल्ज का प्रश्न है। नियम तो होंगे। प्रश्नकर्ता का प्रश्न है कि ऐसा क्यों हुआ है।

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : जहां तक नियमों का सवाल है, मैं देख लूंगा और निश्चित रूप से आवश्यक कार्यवाही करूंगा।

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking: was the promotion made according to the rules?

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: That has to be seen. I am collecting that information also.

MR. SPEAKER: That was the main question.

SHRI RAM DHARI SHASTRI: The rules are not to be collected. The rules must be there.

श्री उपसेन : मंत्री महोदय यह मानते है कि उस व्यक्ति की पदोन्नति जेनेरल मैनेजर के पद पर की गई । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि वह किस ग्रेड में रिसेप्सनिस्ट नियुक्त हुआ और किस ग्रेड में जेनेरल मैनेजर बना।

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : 1947 में वह रिसेप्सनिस्ट के पद पर 600 रुपए मासिक तनख्वाह पर था। उस के बाद क्रमशः उसकी पदोन्नति मिली। आज उस को 2500, 3000 रुपये वेतन मिलता है

श्री रामनरेश कुशवाहा : हमें लगता है कि केवल विषय को टालने के लिए जांच की बात कहीं जा रही है। स्पष्ट प्रश्न यह है कि क्या नियुक्ति नियमानुसार हुई है या नहीं। नियमों के बारे में जांच करने की क्या आवश्यकता है ? इस बारे में मंत्री महोदय स्वयं देखकर बता सकते है।

श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक : नियम तो है, लेकिन तथ्यों की जांच करना आवश्यक है कि क्या दरअसल नियम के अनुसार पदोन्नति हुई है या नहीं। इसलिए इस बारे में सी० बी० आई० के द्वारा जांच करा रहे है।

National Textile Plan

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*86. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

SHRI S. D. SONASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a long term policy in respect of textile industry so as to establish coordination between the organised mills and the powerloom and handloom sectors; and

(b) whether a large number of sick mills have been taken over by Government while there are still a number of sick mills which need to be taken over?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 103 mills have been nationalised so far. In addition, the management of two more mills has been entrusted to the N.T.C. The N.T.C. is thus already over-burdened with the onerous responsibility of managing 105 sick cotton textile mills. The Central Government does not favour takeover of more sick or closed textile mills for management by the National Textile Corporation. However, if any concerned State Government is prepared to take over sick unit or units under its management, the Central Government would like to render all possible cooperation whenever such proposals are found viable.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : मंत्री महोदय ने मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर तो पूरा नहीं दिया हैं लेकिन फिर भी मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या यह बात सही है कि पावरलूम और हैंडलूम सेक्टर में जितना कपड़ा उत्पादित होता है वह देश में उत्पादित होने वाले सारे कपड़े का एक चौथाई भाग से अधिक है और उसमें लगभग 30 लाख से 50 लाख से ऊपर लोग काम करते हैं लेकिन ये दोनों सेक्टर असंगठित हैं और इस कारण मिलों का कपड़ा तो बाजार में आता है और बिकता है लेकिन इनका उत्पादन बिकता नहीं है ? कभी इनके सामने पावर का संकट होता है तो कभी सूत का संकट होता है। तो आप जो पालिसी निर्धारित करने की बात कह रहे हैं क्या कोई निश्चित अवधि बता सकते हैं कि कब तक यह पालिसी तय हो जायगी ? अन्यथा ये दो उद्योग बहुत ही संकट में हैं। अगर एक निश्चित अवधि के अन्दर नीति निर्धारित नहीं की जाएगी तो इनका संकट बढ़ेगा और वस्त्रोत्पादन भी घटेगा जो कि दिन पर दिन घट भी रहा है।

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The hon. Member has raised certain important issues. I share the concern of the hon. Member. The production from these decentralised sectors—handloom and powerloom—is not only 25 per cent but nearly 50 per cent of our total production of more than 8000 million metres in the country. It is true that the whole of our textile industry is passing through a crisis and what is needed today is a coordinated and

integrated textile policy. We are having the handloom, the powerloom and the composite mills. There are also some spindleage mills and man made fibre. Now, having regard to the requirements of the country and also of our export, it is high time that we integrate and coordinate properly the whole of our textile industry. It is in this context that the policy is being formulated and we have divided the various issues subject-wise. The papers are being prepared as per my information. By the end of August, the papers will be ready. Then afterwards it will be considered by my Ministry in consultation with the industry, representatives of the labour and also the experts in the country who would like to give their views. After this consideration, the Government will take a decision. I can assure the hon. Member that all possible emphasis will be laid on this and all possible protection will be given to the decentralised sector, as it is the policy of my Government.

MR. SPEAKER: So many Members cannot get up like this. I am on my legs. Please sit down. The man who has taken the trouble of putting a question, you do not give him a chance to put a supplementary question. For every question, there are some friends who get up. I will give a chance to those Members who have not put any question. Next time, I will pick up somebody who has not put a supplementary question. There are some Members who do not get a chance. I will not deny them a chance.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय : मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा इस बात के लिए कि वे शीघ्र ही इस की नीति निर्धारित करने वाले हैं जिससे इन दोनों संगठित क्षेत्रों को पूरा पूरा संरक्षण प्राप्त हो सके। लेकिन मेरे दूसरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया। [मैंने पूछा था कि कितनी ऐसी और मिलें हैं जो रुग्ण और बीमार हैं और जो ठीक से नहीं चल रही हैं ? मैंने पत्र द्वारा भी मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकृष्ट किया था होप टैक्सटाइल मिल इन्दौर और दूसरी उज्जैन की इन्दौर टैक्सटाइल मिल के बारे में जो काफी रुग्ण हैं और ठीक से नहीं चल रही हैं। आप इनके बारे में क्या कर रहे हैं ? माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने भाग (ख) में इस बात की जानकारी नहीं दी है कि कितनी ऐसी मिलें हैं जो रुग्ण हैं जिन्हें सरकार को अपने हाथ में लेना चाहिए, जिनको टेक ओवर करने की आवश्यकता है।

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: As per my information, as on April 1977, the number of sick units is 29, out of which 19 are spinning mills and 10 are composite mills. Of these, because of our efforts in the last two months, it may become possible for us, of course in cooperation with Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat, to take over three mills. So far as the others are concerned, I have been in dialogue with the concerned State Governments, and wherever it is possible to have a viable proposal, I would very much like to give them all possible assistance from the Central Government.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: In view of the Minister's pronouncement on assuming office about encouraging more domestic consumption than exports, I would like to know whether there will be a change in regard to the export policy on textiles. I would particularly like to know his attitude towards subsidised export of handloom goods from this country—a large number of subsidies were given during the previous regime. I would also like to know whether Government wishes to continue its policy regarding the sale of controlled cloth at subsidised prices. It is well known that the previous Government did sibsidise to the extent of compelling the mills to suffer a loss of one rupee per metre for the benefit of the consumers. I would like to know whether Government's policy is going to be changed in that regard.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Regarding exports either by handloom or by powerloom, it will be the policy of the Government to give them all possible protection. So far as subsidies are concerned, the House will please appreciate that it should be our endeavour not to allow our economy to continue to rely on subsidies. Of course, with a view to giving protection, if something is necessary, it will be done.

Regarding controlled cloth, there are several aspects. It is very true that we shall have to provide controlled cloth at cheaper prices for the masses of our country. But so far as the present policy is concerned, we shal have to examine to what extent it has succeeded and whether some changes are necessary. But till the time a new policy is adopted, I can assure the House, the present policy will continue.

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : मैं आपके द्वारा मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि आज से कुछ दिन पहले उन प्रदेशों में जहां हैंडलूम और पावरलूम बड़े पैमाने पर चलाए जाते हैं क्या कोई टीम भेजी गई थी ? यदि हां, तो उसने क्या रिपोर्ट दी है ?

दूसरी बात यह है कि जहां बड़े पैमाने पर हैंडलूम चला करते थे वहां आज वह अभावग्रस्त हैं, सूत की महंगाई के कारण वह बन्द होते जा रहे हैं तो क्या सरकार का ध्यान उन गरीबों की ओर भी गया है और उनको सस्ता सूत उपलब्ध कराने के लिए आपने क्या व्यवस्था की है ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: To go through the whole gamut of the handloom industry, the then Government had appointed a Committee known as the Sivaraman Committee. The Sivaraman Committee had visited several parts of the country and had gone into the details of the problems. So far as the handloom part is concerned, many of the recommendations of the Sivaraman Committee have been under operation and implementation, and ever since I have assumed office, the House will be happy to know—as we have committed to the country that more and more protection will be given to the decentralised sector—we are trying to see how we can give more protection and more encouragement to this industry. I would very much like to apply my mind to this problem and I would like to know from the hon. Member if there are any specific difficulties.

Regarding prices of yarn, I do share the concern. The House may be aware that the production of cotton in our country, which is usually of the order of 71 lakh bales has gone down to nearly 58 to 59 lakh bales. Naturally this has adversely affected the whole trade. At one end we are trying to import cotton from outside and at the other, we are not charging even the import duty on cotton; not only that, we are even subsidising the sale so that yarn may be available at cheaper prices. But even then, on certain occasions, there are areas where it is not available. If the hon. Member brings it to my notice, I shall look into the matter.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: The Hon'ble Minister, in reply to part (b) of the question and also in reply to a supplementary question, said that the Central Government will assist those States which would like to take over sick mills, since the National Textile Corporation cannot take over more than 103 sick mills. In view of this, may I ask him whether he is aware of the fact that the Priyalakshmi Mills of Baroda and the Shubhalakshmi Mills of Cambay, the Ahmedabad Manck Chowk Mills and several other units in Gujarat have been sick for a long time and the Gujarat Textile Corporation is ready to take over, but there are certain obstacles including the difficulty of the Central Government not acting swiftly in enabling the States to have the necessary finances, capital, machinery etc. for bringing them into operation

again. Will he, therefore, see to it that the Gujarat Textile Corporation is enabled to proceed in the direction it wants, to go, so that these sick mills can be brought back to life and health as early as possible?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I don't know the exact date of the information of the Hon. Member, but I can tell him that about twenty days back the Chief Minister of Gujarat was here and we organised a meeting with the Chief Minister and other concerned officers, and have taken the responsibility of handing over the Subhalakshmi Mills and the Priyalakshmi Mills to the Gujarat Textile Corporation. Some problems are of course there regarding finances and others but we propose to hold a meeting to tackle these problems also.

So far as other mills are concerned, as soon as we receive proposals from the State Government we will look into it. I said we cannot take more than 105 as we will otherwise have to open a general hospital for the sick mills.

श्री यज्ञ दत्त शर्मा : मंत्री महोदय इस बात से परिचित होंगे कि यहां विषय लगातार अनेक वर्षों से बड़े वस्त्र-उद्योगपति और छोटे कर्घा उद्योग में लगे हुए लोगों के बीच में चला आ रहा है । इस संसद में इस विषय पर अनेकों वर्षों में काफी विवाद हुआ है । आज धागे के ऊपर बड़े मिल मालिकों का एकाधिकार है, उनकी मण्डियों के अन्दर छोटे उत्पादकों को कोई आश्रय नहीं मिल रहा है । आपने अभी विकेन्द्रीकरण की बात कही , मेरा यह कहना है कि यह मामला केवल कपड़ा उद्योग तक ही सीमित नहीं है, आज करोड़ों लोग इस धंधे में लगे हुए हैं, जिनमें रिक्शा खींचने वाले भी शामिल हैं । मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं—क्या इस समस्या को एक राष्ट्रीय समस्या मान कर, इसको हल करने के लिए सरकार कोई ठोस नीति तैयार करेगी, जिसका संबन्ध केवल आपके मंत्रालय से ही न होकर, समूची सरकार की नीतियों से होगा ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : मैंने पहले ही बताया है—टैक्सटाइल का मामला एक बहुत गहरा मामला है, इसके लिये नैशनल टैक्सटाइल पालिसी और नैशनल फाइबर पालिसी दोनों की जरूरत है और दोनों को इंटीग्रेट करना भी बहुत जरूरी है । मैं इस आश्वासन को फिर से इस सदन में दोहराना चाहता हूं—न केवल मेरी मिनिस्ट्री की बल्कि हमारी पूरी सरकार की यह नीति रहेगी कि पूरी टैक्सटाइल इण्डस्ट्री के लिये नेशनल फाइबर पालिसी और नेशनल टैक्सटाइल पालिसी तैयार की जाय और यह काम जरूर किया जायगा ।

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: The predecessors of the Hon'ble Minister had talked for about three years about an integrated textile policy, but that policy has not seen the light of day. May I therefore know from the Hon. Minister whether he will see to it that such things do not happen again and that the integrated textile policy is announced soon? Can he give us some time by which this policy will be announced? According to the present policy, the weaker mills have to produce more controlled cloth and the stronger mills have to produce less and they are also given some concessions. The result is that so many mills have closed down and the NTC had to take them over. If this policy continues, many more mills will close down. I would request the hon. Minister to examine this policy. May I know how long they are going to take to examine and introduce the new controlled cloth policy?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I have already said that so far as the policy on controlled cloth is concerned, it is

under examination by the Government. I do not know whether the hon. Member was present or not. As regards the first question of the hon. Member, he is criticising his own previous Government. I would like the hon. Member to take into consideration the change in the country and what this Government says, it means and when we say, we shall do it, we will do it.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I would like to know if the hon. Minister is aware that during the last fifteen years, there has been a decline in the *per capita* consumption of textile cloth and in view of that, would you please tell us, what priority this textile plan will have particularly in regard to controlled cloth and the cotton price which is something about which the producer has a complaint?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I entirely agree that the *per capita* consumption has gone down from 15.5 metres to nearly 12 metres per year and it is a very serious matter. Regarding priorities, we will very much like the cooperation of the hon. Members also. All these priorities will be finalised in consultation with the Planning Commission.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: It appears from the reply of the hon. Minister that the Government has once for all decided firmly not to take over any sick textile mills. In this background, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that there are at present about 41 textile mills in the country which have been closed throwing out of employment about 50,000 textile workers. It is also reported that about 8 textile mills in Bombay are on the verge of being closed. A huge number of workers are facing unemployment. He has stated that he does not want to take over any sick mills. In that case, would he allow the State Governments to take over the sick mills and provide adequate funds from the Centre to enable the State Governments to take over the sick mills in order that employment is ensued to the employees?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I have already answered this question. We would very much like to give all possible cooperation to the State Governments. I only said that the National Textile Corporation cannot now take over additional mills because the losses last year are of the order of 35 crores. I am trying to bring down this loss this year by taking certain measures and, therefore, some time will be required for the NTC to come up to the level of having all the transactions on 'no-profit-no-loss' basis. Even then, I would like to assure the hon. Member that we are equally worried over the problem of unemployment, and we shall give all possible cooperation to the State Governments in the matter of sick mills.

श्री लालजी भाई : क्या मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि गत तीन वर्षों में वर्षवार कितनी सिक मिल बन्द हुई ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जैसा मैंने बताया कि अप्रैल, 77 में स्पिनिंग और कम्पोजिट दोनों मिलाकर 29 मिल बन्द थे । इसके पहले 105 सिक मिलें थीं । ये 29 और 105 मिलें मिला कर 134 होती हैं

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Has the Kerala Government already revived the Kerala Textile Corporation to take over the closed mills in which thousands of workers are employed? May I know if the hon. Minister will be good enough to extend necessary financial aid to this corporation just to revive these mills?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It will be done irrespective of any Party. I would like to tell the Kerala Government also.

Rise in the prices of Essential Commodities

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*87. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:

SHRI F. P. GAEKWAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent alarming rise in prices of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check the price rise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Between March, 1977 and May, 1977, the all-commodities wholesale price index went up by 2.5 per cent as compared to 4.1 per cent increase during the corresponding period in 1976. This phenomenon is a continuation of the inflationary pressures built up since the last week of March, 1976. In the week ending March 19, 1977, the wholesale price index was higher by 12.5 per cent as compared to the index in the corresponding week in 1976. The most important reason for this price spiral during the past one year has been the phenomenal increase of 17.1 per cent in the money supply in 1976-77 as against the marginal estimated increase of about 2 per cent in the national income.

The increase of 2.5 per cent in the wholesale price index between March, 1977 and May, 1977 has been largely due to rise in the prices of pulses, oilseeds and edible oils. During the same period the prices of some mass consumption items like wheat, sugar, maize, ragi, arhar, onion, meat, tea, coffee, sugar, bread, razor blades, dry cells, kerosene, diesel oil, salt, tyres and tubes, footwear, soaps and drugs and medicines either remained more or less stable or showed some decline.

(b) Among the immediate measures taken by the Government to curb the rising trend in prices of essential commodities and improve their availability are: (i) Government's decision to reduce expenditure and avoid all forms of ostentation; (ii) decision to release more cereals through the public distribution system; (iii) more liberal allocations of rice to meet the requirements of the public distribution system in the deficit States; (iv) increased releases of non-levy sugar for the months of May, June and July, 1977; (v) removal of restrictions on inter-State movement of wheat; (vi) imposition of an export duty of Rs. 5 per kg. on tea from April 9, 1977 and simultaneous withdrawal of the excise rebate on tea exports; (vii) regulated export of potatoes and onions; (viii) staggering to the extent possible, export of cement; (ix) continuance of imports of raw cotton in adequate quantities; (x) continuance of imports of adequate quantities of edible oils through the State Trading Corporation and the private trade; (xi) arrangements for the distribution of refined imported oils for direct consumption through the State Civil Supplies authorities at the retail prices of Rs. 8.50 per kg. in some high consumption centres to begin with.

As a medium term measure, Government appointed in mid-April, 1977, a special committee to suggest measures for increasing the production of raw cotton, pulses and oilseeds in the coming kharif season. The committee has finalised a plan which is being implemented with necessary financial support.

As a long term measure, Government are working out details of building up a massive public distribution

system for a number of essential commodities. Consumer cooperatives will be adequately strengthened towards this direction.

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद वर्मा : मंत्री महोदय ने जो विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा है, उसके भाग 'ख' में बताया है कि मूल्य वृद्धि रोकने के लिए कारगर कदम उठाए गए हैं । इससे पता लगता है कि इस बारे में सरकार बहुत चिन्तित है । मैं चाहता हूं कि सरकार और चिन्तित हो । इस संबन्ध में मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि ये कदम कब उठाये गये थे और आपके कदम उठाने से मूल्य वृद्धि पर क्या असर पड़ा है ? अगर असर नहीं पड़ा है तो इसके बाद आप और कौन-से कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The Finance Minister will be presenting the Budget this evening and perhaps this may be covered by that.

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं आया है । मंत्री महोदय ने अपने विवरण के भाग 'ख' में दिया है कि मूल्य वृद्धि रोकने के लिए आपने कदम उठाये हैं । मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि आपके कदम उठाने से क्या मूल्यों में कमी आई या वे अब भी बढ़ रहे हैं ? अगर मूल्यों में कमी नहीं आई है तो अब आप कौन से कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I am sorry this is concerned with the measures to be taken by the Finance Minister and it is not proper for me to say anything.

Regarding the other aspects, I can assure the Member that we have taken three types of measures. One is immediate measures. Secondly, mid-term measures and lastly, long-term measures. So far as the long-term measures are concerned, what is needed for the country is a massive distribution system having regard to the millions of people in our country and when I say a massive distribution system, it means right from the production to the distribution end, a lot of machinery will have to be created and to that extent, we have already started action. Regarding immediate measures, I have narrated them in the reply I have given.

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद वर्मा : कुछ नियंत्रित वस्तुएं ऐसी हैं जैसे चीनी है वह लेवी में भी ली जाती है और कुछ मिलों को खुले बाजार में बेचने की छूट है । दोनों के मूल्यों में बड़ा अन्तर रहता है । इसका परिणाम यह हो रहा है कि लेवी की चीनी भी मार्किट में नियंत्रित दर से बिकने के बजाये अधिक मूल्य पर बिकती है और उसमें भी भ्रष्टाचार होता है । इस तरह की विषमता को दूर करने के लिये क्या आप ऐसी नीति निर्धारित करेंगे ताकि जितनी नियंत्रित वस्तुए हैं वे एक दर पर मार्किट में बिकें ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is true that there is levy sugar and non-levy sugar. The price of levy sugar has been fixed from the point of view of the consumer. Regarding non-levy sugar, we are issuing more releases of quota so that the prices do not go beyond the capacity of the consumer. The price last year was about Rs. 464.00. It has come down to Rs. 380.00.

SHRI HITENDRA DESAI: Food articles and edible oils have a direct bearing on the vulnerable section of society. The prices of these articles have increased. Will the Government contemplate to take proper steps to have favourable results?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is very necessary to contain prices. There should be buffer stock too to achieve this object. But unfortunately when we took over charge of the Government, only the keys of godowns were handed over to us. However, when

we opened them, they were found to be empty. In the circumstances, it is very difficult to build up the buffer stock. Anyhow, I shall bear the suggestion of the hon. member in view.

श्री अब्दुल शेखर : मूल्य वृद्धि को रोकने के बारे में आवश्यक कदम उठाने के बाद भी सिमेंट बाजार से गायब हो गया है और 22 रुपए के बजाय 30 रुपए में बिकने लग गया है। ट्रैक्टरों के टायर जो आवश्यक चीज है वे भी सब बाजार से गायब हो गए हैं। आवश्यक कदम उठाने के बाद आप अब ऐसे और कौन से अन्य कदम उठाने जा रहे हैं ताकि ये आवश्यक वस्तुएं बाजार में उपलब्ध हो सकें ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is true that the price had gone up. It is not because cement was not available. The price per bag had gone up to Rs. 26 or to Rs. 30 as the hon. member has said. It is all because of the past Government that it is happening to-day. We are not responsible for it.

There was tremendous shortage—from 30 per cent to 50 per cent—in various States during the last four months and undue advantage was taken of this shortage. We had a discussion with the manufacturers. We were assured by them that the licences of the dealers indulging in malpractices will be cancelled. As far as my information goes, licences of eight or nine dealers have already been cancelled. Besides that, I have discussed the matter with the Minister of Industry. In case it is substantiated that the Industry itself is doing something in the matter, we have decided to take over stock of the concerned factory for distribution.

श्रीमती मृणाल गोरे : जब वस्तएं कम मिलती हैं उनकी उपलब्धि कम होती है तब उनका सार्वजनिक वितरण हो यही एक रास्ता रह जाता है। इस दृष्टि से मामले आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं यह बताने की कृपा करें।

इस साल चीनी का उत्पादन बहुत अच्छा होगा, 47 से 49 लाख टन चीनी पैदा होगी। चीनी राशन में 2 रुपए 15 पैसे की दर से मिलती है और ओपन मार्किट में बहुत महंगे दाम पर बिकती है। अगर राशन की चीनी एक किलो तक कम से कम बढ़ा दी जाए तो फिर खुले बाजार में जो ज्यादा दाम है वे भी नीचे आ जायेंगे। मैं जानना चाहती हूं कि इस दृष्टि से भी क्या मंत्री महोदय इसके बारे में कुछ करेंगे ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : जो मैसिव वितरण व्यवस्था है उसके बारे में तो जवाब दे दिया है। मैं आप से सहमत हूं कि अपनी वितरण व्यवस्था अच्छी करनी होगी। आजकल हम वितरण स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स की जो व्यवस्था है उसके जरिए करते हैं, मगर वह और बढ़ानी होगी और इस काम में हम कोआपरेटिव सैक्टर और सोशल इस्टीट्यूशन्स का सहयोग जरूर लेंगे।

So far as sugar is concerned it is a suggestion for consideration and I shall look into it.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Import of edible oil in this country and the distribution of edible oil in this country can only be described as inedible distribution. Therefore the import and distribution of this edible oil has had no significant impact on the prices of the truly edible oil in this country. Is it not true?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: 75 per cent of the edible oil are given to vanaspathi manufacturers and therefore it is possible for us to keep up the tempo of the manufacture of vanaspathi. There are sovabeen and sunflower oils. They are being imported and we get them refined here. And so far as my information goes, people have started appreciating the distribution of this at the rate of Rs. 8.50 per kg. in various places in the country.

श्री कर्पूरी ठाकुर : यों तो आवश्यक वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में जो वृद्धि हो रही है, उसमें गिरावट होनी चाहिए उसके लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाये गये है, लेकिन सबसे ज्यादा जो आवश्यक है वह अनाज और कपड़ा है। आम लोगों की दृष्टि से उन मूल्यों में कमी के लिए क्या आवश्यक कदम उठाये गये हैं ? अगर परिणाम कदम उठाने के बाद भी कुछ नहीं हुआ है तो अब क्या आवश्यक कदम उठाये जानें वाले हैं ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : सभापति जी, अनाज हो या खाने की और चीजें अगर उनका हम उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ाते हैं तो लोगों को उचित मात्रा में दाम पर नहीं दे सकते हैं और इसीलिए, जैसा मैंने बताया है, एक तरफ जो कुछ आवश्यक कदम उठाने चाहियें वह उठा रहे हैं, साथ ही खरीफ सीजन में कपास, मंगफली, सरसों का उत्पादन कैसे बढ़ा सकें इसके लिए सरकार ने कमेटी बनायी और उसकी रिपोर्ट आयी और वह हमने चालू की है ताकि आने वाले मौनसून में उस का फायदा उठा सकें। क्योंकि अगर उत्पादन बढ़ता है तो लोगों की मांग पूरी कर सकते हैं। तो जो सुझाव माननीय सदस्य ने दिया है उस का हम फायदा उठा सकते हैं।

श्री यमुना प्रसाद शास्त्री : एक तरफ़ तो कंट्रोल प्राइस पर 2 रु० 15 पैसे प्रति किलो चीनी मिल रही है और दूसरी तरफ खुले बाजार 5 रु० प्रति किलो चीनी मिल रही है, क्या आप इस दोहरी मूल्य और वितरण प्रणाली को समाप्त करने जा रहे है कि नहीं ? या तो पूरे तौर पर कंट्रोल में दीजिये, अगर ऐसा नहीं करते है तो यह कंट्रोल वाली चीनी सब ब्लैक में बिकती है और साधारण आदमी को उस का फ़ायदा नहीं मिल रहा है। इस लिये मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि इस दोहरी वितरण पद्धति को आप समाप्त करने जा रहे है कि नहीं ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : मैं ने बताया कि जो सुझाव श्रीमती मृणाल गोरे ने दिया है उस पर जरूर विचार करेंगे। उस का भी यहां जवाब नहीं दिया जा सकता है। मगर शक्कर के दाम ज्यादा न हों इस लिये मई, जून म हमने उस का कोटा 1 लाख 30 हजार टन कर दिया है।

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: From the statement I find that two types of measures are being propounded, one is medium-type and the other is long-term. As far as the long-term measure is concerned, you have stated about a massive public distribution system for a number of essential commodities. May I know what is this massive distribution system? We have had experience of 30 years of congress rule in this country. The same kind of statements had been made. We were told again and again that all efforts would be made to bring down the prices and make the public distribution system perfect and so on.

But, in the meantime, the prices of all commodities are going up. You have given details of only a few articles.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you come to your question.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: I see that even in the case of potato, the price is going up. The prices of edible oil, mustard oil and everything are going up. So, what short-term measures are you taking so that within one or two months, the prices may come down.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, he has narrated the history of thirty years. But, he should not forget that there is a change. He is also a party to that change. We shall see that this change is properly made use of.

श्री मनोहर लाल : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है।

हम जानना चाहते है कि आपने क्या इस तरह का कोई नियम बना दिया है कि प्रश्नोत्तर के समय एक मैम्बर एक ही प्रश्न पूछ सकता है ?

MR. SPEAKER: I will tell you. You will please sit down. I shall explain the position, so that you may not get up everynow and then to put a question. If the hon. Members read the questions in advance, they will be able to put the supplementary where it is supposed to be very important.

Instead of that, if suppose, ten people get up and if suppose the same gentleman wants to put a supplementary, then what should I do with regard to others? Suppose you are in the Chair. If ten people get up and you call the same gentleman everytime, what will the other Members say about it? Therefore, I say, if the hon. Member reads the question in advance and puts a supplementary on a question where it is supposed to be very important, then that would be easier for me. I have to do justice to all members. If I call the same gentleman and not others, what will they think about me? I want to give a chance to others who are also hon. Members who are elected to this House to put a supplementary.

Therefore, that is the policy that I am following. Whether you like it or not, I shall follow that policy. Now no more discussion on this.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Consultancy Services of I.T.D.C.

*81. SHRI GHULAM MOHAMMAD KHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:—

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation has provided expertise for tourism plans of States;

(b) whether any State has shown interest in such consultancy services; and

(c) if so, brief facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The I.T.D.C. has been appointed by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir as Consultants for their entire publicity programme. Similarly, the Corporation has provided a certain amount of expertise in assisting tourism promotion plans of the Governments of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. In areas other than tourism promotion and publicity also, the Governments of Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Punjab, Assam and Nagaland have shown interest in utilising the consultancy services of the Corporation. The nature and scope of consultancy services required by these Governments are still to be crystallised.

Memorandum from Indian Pilots' Guild

*82. SHRIMATI AHILYA P. RANGNEKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Indian Pilots' Guild recently; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). Some letters have been received from the Indian Pilots Guild regarding the re-instatement of three pilots of Air-India who were removed from service for their role in the 1974 strike in Air-India. Two of them have already been reinstated. The case against the third is *sub-judice*.

Payment of Bonus to L.I.C. Employees

*85. SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a comprehensive agreement was made with the Life Insurance Corporation Management on January 24, 1974 to pay bonus to the L.I.C. employees;

(b) whether Government propose to review their demands for payment of bonus in future in view of Calcutta High Court judgement dated 21st May, 1976; and

(c) how much amount Government are likely to pay towards the arrears and future payment of bonus to the employees?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Comprehensive settlements were concluded between the management of the L.I.C. and the Unions of its Class III and Class IV employees on 24th January, 1974 and 6th February, 1974. These settlements were current from 1st April, 1973 to 31st March, 1977 and *inter alia* provided for payment of annual cash bonus to the Class III and Class IV employees at the rate of 15 per cent of annual salary.

With the enactment of the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Act, 1976, the Central Government decided that, beginning with the accounting year 1974/1974-75, employees of the non-competing public sector undertakings may be paid an amount *ex-gratia*, in lieu of bonus, to be determined by the Central Government, taking into account the wage levels, the financial circumstances and other relevant factors. The *ex-gratia* payment is not to exceed 10 per cent of salary/wage and only those drawing salary upto Rs. 1,600 per mensem are eligible. The maximum salary/wage level for calculation of *ex-gratia* payment is Rs. 750 per mensem.

The All India Insurance Employees' Association moved the Calcutta High Court on 22nd April, 1976 *inter alia* for a declaration that the settlement dated 24th January, 1974 between the Corporation and the said association is lawful and binding on the LIC and that an injunction should be issued restraining the LIC from refusing to pay bonus to Class III and Class IV employees. The Judge of the Calcutta High Court in his judgement dated 21st May, 1976 directed that the LIC should make payment of bonus as laid down in the settlement. The LIC made an appeal against the above judgement to the Division Bench of the Calcutta High Court presided over by the Chief Justice. Meanwhile the LIC (Modification of Settlements) Act, 1976 came into force on 29th May, 1976 annulling with effect from 1st April, 1975 the provisions of the settlements insofar as they pertained to payment of annual cash bonus to the Class III and Class IV employees. In view of the said legislation, the Division Bench of the Calcutta High Court did not make any order on the appeal as the action of the LIC was now protected by law. And thus the judgement of the Single Judge of the Calcutta High Court was rendered ineffective.

The validity of the LIC (Modification of Settlements) Act, 1976 has since been challenged in the Supreme Court by some of the Unions of the LIC employees. The matter is still pending before the Supreme Court.

अभ्रक का निर्यात

*88. श्री रीतलाल प्रसाद वर्मा : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार का विचार अभ्रक पर लगा यह प्रतिबन्ध

कि मिटको और निर्यातक क्रमश: 40 प्रतिशत और 60 प्रतिशत अभ्रक निर्यात करें, समाप्त करने और दिन प्रतिदिन घटते हुए अभ्रक व्यापार को, जिसके कारण अभ्रक व्यापारियों और मजदूरों को कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, बचाने के लिये मुक्त व्यापार की अनुमति देने का विचार है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) : जी नहीं बटवारा फामूला अभ्रक व्यापार के कमजोर वर्ग की सहायता के लिये शुरु किया गया था । सामान्यत: मिटको अपने 40 प्रतिशत के हिस्से के लिये इसी कमजोर वर्ग से ही माल खरीदता है, जब तक ऐसा न हो कि मिटको द्वारा अपनी बिक्री के वायदे पूरे करने के लिये अपेक्षित कुछ मदें इस कमजोर वर्ग से न मिले । अत: बटवारा फार्मूला समाप्त करना और और मुक्त व्यापार पुन: शुरु करना अभ्रक व्यापार के इस कमजोर वर्ग के हित में नहीं होगा । अभ्रक व्यापार में गिरावट का कारण काफी हद तक यह है कि संशिलष्ट एवजी माल बनने लगा है ।

Report of the Committee on Costing/ Pricing of Cotton and Cloth

*89. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any Report of the Committee set up last year to go into the costing/ pricing of cotton and cloth;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee observed that it is possible to evolve a nexus between the prices of kapas, the mill-gate delivery prices for cotton and the prices of yarn and cloth, taking various assumptions into consideration. The Committee also observed that fluctuations in the prices of kapas and cotton are a regular feature disrupting the economy of the cotton growers as well as of the textile industry. The production of cotton acquiring self-sufficiency in its supply assumes considerable importance and has to be given priority.

(c) The Report of the Committee is under examination.

विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमों का उल्लंघन

***90. श्री के० लकप्पा** : क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1975 से अब तक कितने व्यक्तियों ने विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमों का उल्लंघन किया हैं ; और

(ख) उन मे से कितने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये और कितने व्यक्तियों को दण्ड दिया गया ?

वित्त और राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) और (ख). जनवरी, 1975 से अप्रैल, 1977 तक की अवधि में, विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम के आरोपित उल्लंघन के कारण, प्रवर्तन निदेशालय द्वारा विभिन्न व्यक्तियों (जिनमे कानूनी निकाय भी शामिल हैं) को 13,020 'कारण बताओ नोटिस' जारी किये गये थे । इसी अवधि में न्यायालयों 327 शिकायतें

भी दायर की गई । इस अवधि में गिरफ्तार किये गये व्यक्तियों की संख्या 119 है ।

2. विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम के उल्लंघनों में ग्रस्त विभिन्न व्यक्तियों को जो दण्ड दिया जाता है वह इस प्रकार है :— विभागीय न्यायनिर्णय मे अर्थ दण्ड लगाना और अवैधानिक मुद्रा की जब्ती तथा इस्तगासे की कार्यवाही में न्यायालयों द्वारा दोषी प्रमाणित किये जाने पर जेल की सजा और जुर्माना ।

टिप्पणी :—कारण बताओ नोटिस और न्यायालय में दायर की गई शिकायतों की संख्या इसलिये दी गई है कि आंकड़े इसी आधार पर रखे जाते हैं । कुछेक मामलों मे, एक ही व्यक्ति को एक से अधिक 'कारण बताओ नोटिस' जारी किये जाते हैं अ : कुछ एक मामलं में ए ही 'कारण बताओ नोटिस के अन्तर्गत एक से अधिक व्यक्ति आ सकते हैं । न्यायालय में दायर की गई शिकायतों के बारे में भी यही स्थिति है । कुछेक मामलों में ऐसा भी हो सकता है कि जिस व्यक्ति को कारण बताओ नोटिस जारी किया गया वह वही व्यक्ति हो सकता है जिसके विरुद्ध न्यायालय में शिकायत दायर की गई हो । यदि विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम के उल्लंघन में ग्रस्त व्यक्तियों की संख्या ठीक-ठीक दी जानी हो तो सूचना एकत्र करने के लिये 13347 संबंधित फाइलों में से प्रत्येक को देखना होगा और उस पर जो समय तथा श्रम लगेगा वह उससे प्राप्त होने वाले परिणाम के अनुरूप नहीं होगा ।

एक अनधिकृत व्यक्ति द्वारा इण्डियन एयरलाइंस के विमान का हैदराबाद से तिरुपति तक उड़ाया जाना

*91. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र :**

श्री रामानन्द तिवारी :

क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत वर्ष इण्डियन एयरलाइन्स के एक विमान को एक अनधिकृत व्यक्ति ने हैदराबाद से तिरुपति तक उड़ाया था ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस घटना के बारे में पूरा ब्यौरा क्या है तथा इस मामले में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख). नागर विमानन विभाग के विमान सुरक्षा निदेशक, श्री वी० चेलप्पा की, जिन्होंने नागर विमानन के महानिदेशक के आदेश से कथित घटना की जांच की की थी, रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 25-12-1976 को हैदराबाद से तिरुपति तक इंडियन एयरलाइन्स के विमान का चालन किसी अनधिकृत व्यक्ति द्वारा किया गया प्रतीत नहीं होता । रिपोर्ट से पता चला है कि हैदराबाद से तिरुपति तथा विजयवाड़ा तक की उड़ान के दौरान श्री संजय गांधी विमान चालक की सीट पर बैठे थे परन्तु उन्होंने विमान का नियंत्रण अपने हाथ में नहीं लिया ।

नागर विमानन के महानिदेशक ने वायुयान नियम, 1937 का उल्लंघन करने के कारण विमान चालक तथा श्री संजय गांधी के विरुद्ध आवश्यक कार्यवाही आरम्भ कर दी है ।

Family Pension

*92. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state whether Government are considering to give benefit of family pension to the pensioners who retired from service prior to 1st January, 1964?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): Families of Government servants who retired before 1st January, 1964 are governed by the Liberalised Pension Rules, 1950. Under these rules the families of permanent

Government employees who had rendered not less than 20 years qualifying service and were eligible for pension were allowed the benefits of family pension. The family pension in such a case is normally at the rate of 50 per cent of the superannuation pension subject, however, to a minimum of Rs. 40 and a maximum of Rs. 150 per month. This family pension is non-contributory in nature and is payable for a maximum period of 10 years from the date following the date of death of the employee but not exceeding beyond the period of 5 years from the date on which the Government servant would have retired on superannuation. The family for this purpose includes widow/widower, sons, daughters, father, mother, brother below the age of 18 years and unmarried and widowed sisters. A new scheme known as the Family Pension Scheme, 1964, which is contributory in nature, was introduced with effect from 1st January, 1964 and Government employees who were in service at that time were given an option to choose between the two schemes.

Finance Minister's visit to U.S.A. and other Countries

*93. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR DHARA:

SHRI D. D. DESAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the possibilities of improvement in financial and economic relations of India, with the countries visited by him in the beginning of last month, particularly the United States of America; and

(b) whether there is possibility of further improvements in Indo-American relations as a result of his visit?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H.M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The Finance Mininster visited only U.S.A. in April 1977. He halted at London on his way to Washington and also on his return journey, but he had no official engagements in the U.K.

2. The Finance Mininster's visit to USA was primarily to attend ministerial meetings of the Development Committee and the Interim Committee of the IMF and the IBRD. The deliberations in these Committees are in the nature of a continuing dialogue between the developed and developing Countries on questions relating to the reform of the international monetary system and improvements in the operational policies and instruments of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

3. The Finance Minister also availed of the opportunity presented by these meetings to establish bilateral contacts with his counterparts from major countries (including U.K., Canada, France and West Germany) and to discuss matters connected with India's share of the IDA funds.

4. The discussions with U.S. Treasury Secretary and U.S. Secretary of State centred on the question of India's share in IDA lending, and the issue of bilateral aid from USA to India was *not* discussed. Such discussions do however, help to create the conditions for increasing co-operation and cordial economic relations between the two countries.

Uniformity in Rates of Sales Tax

*94. SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from the States and Business and Trade Associations for bringing about uniformity in the sales tax rates throughout the country and its collection by the Central Government as additional excise duty; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made in giving effect to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H.M. PATEL): (a) a large number of representations has been received by the Government from Business and Trade Associations, suggesting that sales tax may be replaced by Additional Excise Duty.

(b) At present such levy of additional excise duty in lieu of salestax is applicable only to textiles (other than silk fabrics) tobacco and sugar. The question of extending the scheme to other commodities had been considered earlier but the State Governments had opposed the proposal. The Indirect Taxation Inquiry Committee is now reviewing the structure of all the indirect taxes—Central, State and Local. The question of replacement of sales tax by additional excise duty will be considered again in consultation with the State Governments as early as possible.

Import of Japanese Car by Shri Dhirendra Brahmachari

*95. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri Dhirendra Brahmachari has imported a U.S. make small executive plane and a Japanese Car;

(b) if so, whether it was done violating duty exemption conditions and other regulations of Government; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken against the persons who are responsible for that?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). One Maule Aeroplane was imported from USA as a gift to Aparna Ashram, Mantalai, District Udampur (J & K) in July 1976 under cover of a customs clearance permit issued by the CCI&E. The aeroplane was exempted from payment of customs duty subject, *inter-alia*, to the condition that the aeroplane will be used for transportation of the students and teachers from the plains to the Ashram and back and that the yoga training will be imparted free of any charges. In April, 1977, it was learnt that the aeroplane was being used for other purposes in violation of this condition. The aeroplane was accordingly seized on 29-4-77 by the Customs authorities at Delhi under provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, for violating the conditions of the exemption.

One Toyota Crown Car gifted by Messrs. S.M. Trading Company, Osaka, Japan to Vishwayatan Yoga Ashram, New Delhi was imported in August, 1971 on payment of duty. No exemption from customs duty was allowed on this car. As far as the import restrictions are concerned, the car was allowed clearance against a customs clearance permit issued by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports.

(c) The aeroplane has been seized by the Customs authorities at Delhi. Appropriate action will be taken after completion of the statutory requirements of show cause notice, affording opportunity to reply, personal hearing, taking of evidence etc.

Release of Smugglers detained under COFEPOSA

*96. SHRI M. KALAYANASUNDARAM:

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the smugglers held in the wake of emergency under COFEPOSA have been released; and

(b) if so, a brief account thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). During the period of internal emergency, 2015 smugglers and foreign

exchange racketeers were detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, under the orders issued by the Central Government and the various State Governments. Out of these, 1723 detenus have been released from detention and 292 such detenus were in actual detention as on 4-6-77.

Proposal to lift Ban on Import of Capital Goods

*97. SHRI M. N. GOVINDA NAIR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the lifting of ban on the import of certain capital goods; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). It is not proposed to lift the ban on the import of certain capital goods which are indigenously adequately and efficiently manufactured. To safeguard the interests of the indigenous industry is one of the basic objectives of the import policy and no imports to the detriment of the indigenous industry will be allowed.

Release of persons detained under COFEPOSA

*98. SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons were detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act by the previous Government;

(b) how many have been released now and how many are in detention as yet;

(c) whether smuggling has increased since the release of detenus; and

(d) if so, what further action is contemplated against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H.M. PATEL): (a) Till the revocation of internal emergency by the previous Government 275 persons had been detained under the orders of the Central Government, under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974. Out of this, 179 persons were in actual detention.

(b) After the revocation of internal emergency, till 4-6-1977, 164 persons out of those actually detained were released and 16 persons are now in detention.

(c) No Sir, reports received do not indicate increase in smuggling.

(d) Although smuggling continues to be effectively contained, anti-smuggling measures have been reinforced and field formations have been instructed to take stringent action against smugglers under the normal law. The measures include strengthening of investigation and intelligence set-ups, rummaging of ships arriving from sensitive ports and patrolling of vulnerable areas on the sea coast and the main transport routes.

Proposal to construct Airports at Kangra Valley and Simla

*99. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of foreign tourists visit Dharamsala, Kulu, Manali, Delhousie and other places of tourist interest in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct airports at Kangra Valley and Simla; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Dharamsala, Kulu, Manali, Dalhousie and other places of tourist interest in Himachal Pradesh are usually visited by a large number of domestic tourists. However, eversince the opening of certain restricted areas for trekking, a large number of foreign tourists have also started visiting Himachal Pradesh.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal at present to construct an aerodrome in Kangra Valley. Some preliminary studies have been made about the feasibility of constructing an aerodrome at Simla, but due to paucity of funds, the project has been deferred.

Return of Imported Edible Oil by Vanaspati Factories

*100. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain vanaspati factories in the country have returned the imported edible oil supplied to them by a Government Agency as it was found to be of inferior standard;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the loss sustained by Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to dispose of the sub-standard edible oil?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Four vanaspati factories have claimed compensation from the STC, for moisture content in the imported palm oil supplied to them. The claims amount to about Rs. 1,54,550/-. The claims received are under examination by the STC.

(d) There is no sub-standard edible oil with STC for disposal.

Revision of the Statutory Minimum Price of Natural Rubber

769. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of the Indian Small Rubber Growers' Association of Kerala has submitted a memorandum demanding revision of the statutory minimum price of natural rubber; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

World Bank Aid to Development of Bombay High

770. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he paid a visit to Washington recently to get financial aid from the World Bank;

(b) if so, whether India has requested the World Bank to give financial aid for development of Bombay High; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. I visited Washington in the last week of April, 1977 to participate in the meetings of Group of 24 Ministers, the Joint Fund Bank Development Committee and the Interim Committee of Governors of the International Monetary Fund.

(b) and (c). Negotiations relating to 150 million loan from the World Bank for Phase III of the Bombay

High Project were completed on 2nd June 1977 in Washington. It is expected that the loan agreement will be signed shortly.

Interest on Bank Loans to Educational Institutions

771. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in April, 1977 Government of India have received written representation from Maharashtra requesting them to charge interest on Bank loans to educational institutions at the rate of 4 per cent and not at the rate of Rs. 12½ per cent; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken or propose to take on the said representations and when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Government do not appear to have received any such representation.

(b) Does not arise.

पर्यटन विकास सम्बन्धी केन्द्रीय योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत झालावाड़ जिले में किये जा रहे कार्य

772. **श्री चतुर्भुज** : क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पर्यटन विकास सम्बन्धी केन्द्रीय योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत झालावाड़ जिले में क्या कार्य किये जा रहे हैं ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : साधनों की तंगी तथा अन्य प्राथमिकताओं के कारण झालावाड़ में केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र के अन्तर्गत कोई पर्यटन सम्बन्धी योजना प्रारम्भ नहीं की गई है ।

राजस्थान नहर और चम्बल कमांड क्षेत्र के लिए विश्व बैंक से ऋण

773. **श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल** : क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राजस्थान नहर और चम्बल कमांड क्षेत्र परियोजना के लिये विश्व बैंक की ओर से आर्थिक सहायता दी गई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितनी और जिन परियोजनाओं पर यह रकम खर्च की जाएगी उनका ब्यौरा क्या है और यह योजनाएं कब तक पूरी हो जायेंगी ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) राजस्थान नहर और चम्बल सिंचाई क्षेत्र विकास परियोजनाओं के लिए विश्व बैंक ने 1590 लाख डालर की वित्तीय सहायता देने का वचन दिया है । इसमें से 830 लाख डालर राजस्थान नहर के लिए, 520 लाख डालर राजस्थान में आने वाले चंबल सिंचाई क्षेत्र विकास के लिए और 240 लाख डालर मध्य प्रदेश के चंबल सिंचई क्षेत्र विकास के लिए रखे गये हैं । आशा है कि ये परियोजनाएं क्रमश: 30 जून, 1980 और 31 दिसम्बर, 1978 तक पूरी हो जाएंगी ।

Multinational Corporation

774. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of multinational corporations functioning at present in the country; and

(b) the amount remitted abroad by these units during the last three years

in form of profit and dividends, and the amount of foreign exchange earned by India during this period, year-wise as a result of the operations of these Corporations?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) As on 31-3-1976 (latest period for which information is available) there were 171 Subsidiaries and 481 Branches of foreign companies operating in India. There is no precise definition of multinational corporation. Hence for the purpose of the question, information is given about foreign companies.

(b) According to the Reserve Bank, the total remittances towards profits and dividends effected by foreign companies during the last three years were as below:

	(Rs. crores)
1973-74	45·57
1974-75	20·63
1975-76	34·42

Information about the foreign exchange earned by these companies during this period is not readily available.

भारत, यूगोस्लाविया और मिश्र के बीच आर्थिक सहयोग के विषय पर बातचीत

775. श्री उग्रसेन : क्या **वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत, यूगोस्लाविया और मिश्र के बीच आर्थिक सहयोग पर त्रिपक्षीय वार्ता का जो सूत्रपात लगभग 10 वर्ष पहले किया गया था वह अब सर्वथा निश्चेष्ट हो गई है और वार्ता को पुन: आरम्भ करने के लिए कोई प्रयत्न नहीं किये जा रहे हैं ;

(ख) क्या इस दिशा में अब तक प्राप्त उपलब्धियों का मूल्यांकन किया गया है और यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं; और

(ग) वार्ता पुन: कब तक आरंभ की जायेगी ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) : (क) से (ग). भारत, मिश्र और यूगोस्लाविया के बीच व्यापार विस्तार तथा आर्थिक सहयोग करार पर 23 दिसम्बर, 1967 को हस्ताक्षर हुए थे और यह 1 अप्रैल, 1968 से लागू हुआ था। इस करार का मुख्य उद्देश्य तीनों देशों के बीच निर्दिष्ट माल के आदान-प्रदान के सम्बन्ध मे टैरिफ अधिमान प्रदान करना है। इस प्रयोजन के लिये, तीनों देशों ने 134 टैरिफ शीर्षों की साझी सूची बनाई है और जब वे परस्पर इन उत्पादों का व्यापार करते हैं तो परम मित्र राष्ट्र दर का 50 प्रतिशत टैरिफ अधिमान देते हैं। औद्योगिक संयुक्त उद्यमों, विज्ञान तथा प्रौद्योगिकी, नौवहन, पर्यटन, वित्त, बैंकिंग तथा बीमा जैसे अन्य विभिन्न क्षेत्र में त्रिपक्षीय कार्यकलापों को भी इस करार में रखा गया है।

विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में हासिल की गई प्रगति की समीक्षा करने के लिए मंत्रियों तथा इस करार के अन्तर्गत गठित कार्यकारी दल की समय समय पर बैठकें होती हैं। तीनों देशों के मंत्रियों की चौथी बैठक काहिरा में 2 तथा 3 मई, 1976 को हुई थी। मंत्रियों ने टैरिफ अधिमान के प्रभाव का अध्ययन करने के बाद तीनों देशों की बीच व्यापार संवर्धन के लिये अनेक उपायों का सुझाव दिया था, जैसे साझी सूची का विस्तार, विद्यमान साझी सूची की मदों पर टैरिफ कटौती बढ़ाना, साझी सूची में मदें जोड़ना और गैर-टैरिफ प्रतिबन्ध हटाना।

व्यापार तथा टैरिफ सम्बन्धी त्रिपक्षीय कार्यकारी दल की दिसम्बर, 1976 में जब बैलग्रेड में बैठक हुई तो उसने इन सिफारिशों का अनुसरण किया। 1976 में काहिरा में हुई

मंत्रिस्तरीय बैठक में संयुक्त उद्यमों के लिये तीन परियोजनाओं अर्थात् ट्रैक्टर, रेल के माल-डिब्बे आदि और इलैक्ट्रानिक उद्योगों को चुना गया । औद्योगिक सहयोग सम्बन्धी भारतीय कार्यकारी दल इन तीन परियोजनाओं के सम्बन्ध मे आवश्यक अनुवर्ती कार्यवाही कर रहा है ।

तीनों देशों के करार के प्रधान समन्वयकर्ताओं (सरकार के सचिव स्तर पर) की बैठक का शीघ्र ही नई दिल्ली में आयोजन करने का प्रस्ताव इस समय विचाराधीन है ताकि करार के अन्तर्गत सहयोग के ढांचे को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिये किये जाने वाले आवश्यक उपायों पर विचार किया जा सके । इसके बाद 1977 के दौरान मंत्रिस्तरीय बैठक होने की संभावना है ।

Staff working in Export Inspection Agency

776. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Export Inspection Agency is treating its staff engaged in inspection work and laboratory work as two different categories and their working conditions and other facilities differ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) (a) and (b). The staff engaged in inspection work and the staff engaged in laboratory are shown separately under the various schemes. Their nature of duties varies from post to post depending upon the responsibilities and functions attached to them. The working hours also vary for the same reasons.

Staff carrying field and tour responsibilities draw travelling allowance and other allowances as may be applicable to their respective posts. The pay and other service conditions of all staff are governed by the sanctions issued by the Export Inspection Council from time to time.

Indian Airlines Flight Connections to Madhya Pradesh

777. SHRI PARDYUMNA K. BAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which Indian Airlines flight connections have been established recently to four places of Madhya Pradesh inspite of the adverse opinion of the experts submitted in a report earlier; and

(b) the extent of loss of revenue per month to Indian Airlines as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) In order to provide much needed air connections in Eastern Madhya Pradesh, the route of Indian Airlines daily HS-748 service Delhi-Gwalior-Bhopal-Indore-Bombay and return was re-adjusted by omitting Gwalior and including Jabalpur and Raipur on two days a week.

(b). Since Jabalpur and Raipur were linked only in May, 1977, the financial results are not yet known.

Proposal to repeal Enemy Property Act, 1966

778. SHRI BASHIR AHMAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state whether Government propose to repeal the Enemy Property Act, 1966?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN

DHARIA): There is no proposal to repeal the Enemy Property Act, 1968.

Alleged Irregularities by India Tobacco Co.

780. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether India Tobacco Co. Ltd. (formerly Imperial Tobacco Co. Ltd.) while purchasing the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Co. did not disclose Rs. 90 lakhs customs duty claim neither to its shareholders nor to the Controller of Capital Issues while obtaining approval for purchase, defrauding the country to the extent of Rs. 90 lakhs in foreign exchange;

(b) whether the price paid (Rs. 2.15 crores) approved by Government is much higher than what was mentioned in the company's original application;

(c) whether the foreign shareholders of both the companies (India Tobacco Ltd. and Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Co. Ltd.) are the same; and

(d) whether the erstwhile Minister for Revenue and Banking Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Chairman, Central Board of Customs and Excise, against whom there are serious allegations had done this under verbal orders of the erstwhile Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The India Tobacco Company Ltd. (ITC) and the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Co. Ltd. (ILTDC) applied jointly on 27th April, 1974 for permission for the sale of the Indian business of ILTDC to ITC. The approval of the Government to this transaction was given on 24th February, 1976. During this period neither of them nor the audited balance sheets of the ILTDC disclosed any contingent liability on account of any claim against ILTDC for payment of customs duty.

The Madras Customs House had asked the ILTDC in October, 1972 to show cause why customs duty amounting to Rs. 90.77 lakhs should not be recovered from it on a consignment of unmanufactured Indian tobacco reimported by the Company in July, 1972 at Madras. This claim was disputed by the Company, but in May, 1975 the Madras Customs House confirmed the demand. The Company preferred an appeal against this demand in August, 1975 which was rejected in May, 1976. The Company filed a revision application which was also rejected in October, 1976.

The Company then represented the matter to the then Minister of Revenue and Banking in October, 1976. In this representation, the Company again pointed out that it had paid the central excise duty when the reimported consignment was cleared for manufacture of cigarettes. While considering this representation, it was noted that the Madras Customs House should not have released the reimported consignment without having charged the customs duty equal to the central excise duty leviable thereon. The reimported consignment had been taken into excise bond and cleared for use in the manufacture of cigarettes. On the basis of the use to which the reimported consignment was put, the correct customs duty equal to central excise duty leviable thereon should have been Rs. 11.4 lakhs at per Rs. 5 per k.g. The Madras Customs House had, however erroneously raised a demand for customs duty at the highest rate of central excise duty of Rs. 40 per kg. applicable to tobacco used in the manufacture of smoking mixtures. At the stage of consideration of the representation of the Company, these facts were taken into account. As the Company had paid the central excise duty leviable on tobacco used in the manufacture of cigarettes,

though after customs clearance, and the recovery of customs duty would have had the effect of recovering duty twice over, and also because this would have acted as an inhibiting factor on exports, it was decided by the Government at the level of the Minister on 19th March, 1977 that the Company be exempted from payment of customs duty equal to the central excise duty.

As the demand for customs duty has thus been extinguished, it cannot be said that the Company has defrauded the country to the extent of Rs. 90 lakhs in foreign exchange.

(b) In their original application dated 27th April, 1974, the two companies had proposed a purchase price of Rs. 255 lakhs for transfer of the the assets and liabilities of the Indian Branch of the ILTDC as at 31st March, 1973. Subsequently, on 10th May 1975, the ITC submitted a revised application suggesting a purchase price of Rs. 255 lahs for transfer of the business of ILTDC as at 31st March, 1975, taking into account the profits of Rs. 95.55 lakhs for the years 1973-74 and 1974-75. In their final application dated 31st July 1975, based on which the Government approval was given on 24th February, 1976, the ITC suggested a purchase price of Rs. 257 lakhs, together with repatriation of 2/3rds of the profits of 1973-74 and 1974-75 amounting to Rs. 63 lakhs. After considering the networth and profit earning capacity value of the business, the Government approved of a purchase price of Rs. 215 lakhs for transfer of the business as at 31st March 1975, together with repatriation of the profits of 1973-74 and 1974-75 amounting to Rs. 63 lakhs. The increase in the purchase price between 31st March, 1973 and 31st March 1975, was mainly due to the fact that there was no contingent liability in respect of leaving/retiring gratuity as at 31st March 1975, because of the setting up of an approved trust fund for taking care of this liability during 1974-75.

(c) ITC and ILTDC had the same foreign shareholders at that time.

(d) The order for exempting the Company from payment of the customs duty was passed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee the then Minister of Revenue and Banking on the file after the matter was examined by the Department concerned. Whether this was done by him under verbal orders of the then Prime Minister is not known.

Incentives to Private German Investment for setting up Industries in India

781. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West German Foreign Minister had recently visited Delhi and spoke of the need for more incentives for the private German investment to set up industries in India; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The F. R. G. Economic Mission, which visited India along with the Foreign Minister of FRG, highlighted the potential for greater collaboration between the countries in the industrial field and referred to some factors inhibiting private German investment in India. The discussions were of a broad and general nature. It has been agreed during the discussion between the two Foreign Ministers that an Expert Group of officials from German Ministries and Departments concerned might discuss such obstacles as may be standing in the way of enlarging and intensifying Indo-German economic cooperation.

पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान राज्यों को वित्तीय सहायता का आवंटन

782. **श्री धर्म सिंह भाई पटेल:** क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान देश के भिन्न-भिन्न राज्यों को

केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा कितनी वित्तीय सहायता आवंटित की गई है ;

(ख) अब तक राज्यवार कितनी सहायता दी जा चुकी है ; और

(ग) राज्यों को सहायता देने का क्या मानदंड अथवा सूत्र हैं ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) से (ग). पांचवीं आयोजना की सम्पूर्ण अवधि के लिए राज्यों के लिए कुल केन्द्रीय सहायता 6,000 करोड़ रुपए रखी गयी है । इसमें से 450 करोड़ रुपए का आवंटन जनजाति उप-आयोजना, पर्वतीय क्षत्र कार्यक्रमों तथा उत्तर-पूर्व परिषद् की योजनाओं के लिए और 100 करोड़ रुपए का आवंटन बाह्य सहायता प्राप्त राज्य आयोजनागत परियोजनाओ के सम्बन्ध में अतिरिक्त केन्द्रीय सहायता के लिए किया गया है । 5450 करोड़ रुपए की शष राशि का आवंटन राज्यों में उस आधार पर किया गया है जिसे गाडगिल सूत्र के नाम से जाना जाता है । इस सूत्र के अनुसार, असम, नागालैण्ड, जम्मू और कश्मीर, हिमाचल प्रदेश, अन्य उत्तर-पूर्वीय राज्यों तथा सिक्किम के उनके अनुमोदित आयोजनागत परिव्यय का वित्तपोषण करने सम्बन्धी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए एक मुश्त आवंटन किया जाता है । शष चौदह राज्यों के लिए केन्द्रीय सहायता का आवंटन निम्नलिखित आधार पर किया जाता है :—

1. जनसंख्या	60%	1971 की जनगणना के आंकड़े
2. प्रति व्यक्ति राज्य की आय	10%	1970–73 के लिए चालू कीमतों पर औसत प्रति व्यक्ति आय, जैसा कि केन्द्रीय सांख्यिकीय संगठन द्वारा बताया गया है ।
3. कर सम्बन्धी प्रयत्न	10%	1973–74 की राज्य की कर सम्बन्धी प्राप्तियां और ऊपर (2) के अन्तर्गत दिये अनुसार प्रति व्यक्ति आय ।
4. सिंचाई और बिजली परियोजनायें	10%	ऐसी जारी मुख्य सिंचाई और बिजली योजनाओं पर संशोधित पांचवीं आयोजनागत परिव्यय जिनकी अनुमानित लागत 20 करोड़ रुपए तथा इससे ऊपर हो तथा 1973–74 के अन्त तक कम से कम 10 प्रतिशत व्यय हो ।
5. विशेष समस्यायें	10%	

मुख्य मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में की गयी सिफारिश के आधार पर पिछले वर्ष यह निर्णय किया गया था कि उपर्युक्त मानदंड के अनुसार 8 प्रतिशत केन्द्रीय सहायता का आवंटन परिवार नियोजन में किये गये कार्य के आधार पर विशिष्ट

रूप से निर्धारित किया जाएगा । यह सूत्र पिछले वर्ष के दौरान परिवार नियोजन से सम्बन्धित कार्य के आधार पर 1977-78 से प्रभावी है ।

2. अब तक राज्यवार दी गयी केन्द्रीय सहायता की रकम का ब्यौरा सभा-पटल पर रखे गए विवरण-पत्र में दे दिया गया है ।

विवरण

पांचवी पंचवर्षीय आयोजना

	(करोड़ रुपयों में) 14-6-77 तक राज्यों को दी गई केन्द्रीय सहायता
1. आन्ध्र प्रदेश	256.39
2. असम	161.91
3. बिहार	304.71
4. गुजरात	162.46
5. हरियाणा	76.16
6. हिमाचल प्रदेश	78.73
7. जम्मू और काश्मीर	286.20
8. कर्नाटक	158.87
9. केरल	142.20
10. मध्य प्रदेश	221.81
11. महाराष्ट्र	192.70
12. मणिपुर	38.18
13. मेघालय	37.56
14. नागालैण्ड	35.83
15. उड़ीसा	173.06
16. पंजाब	81.20
17. राजस्थान	190.10
18. सिक्किम	21.93
19. तमिलनाडु	214.08
20. त्रिपुरा	34.07
21. उत्तर प्रदेश	550.00
22. पश्चिम बंगाल	171.79
जोड़ सभी राज्य	3589.94

जयगढ़ किले में खुदाई कार्यों पर हुआ व्यय

783. **श्री नाथू सिंह** : क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राजस्थान में जयगढ़ किले में किये गये खुदाई कार्यों के दौरान कोई खजाना मिला था ; और

(ख) उस खुदाई कार्य पर कुल कितना खर्च हुआ ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) अपेक्षित सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और उसे सदन-पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

Handloom Industry in Kerala

784. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Handloom Industry in Kerala is facing a serious crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and steps taken to meet the crisis;

(c) whether the crisis is due to the fact that the handloom product called "Crepe" the production of which is exclusively reserved for the handlooms is being illegally manufactured by powerlooms besides the problem of rise in price of yarn and chemicals; and

(d) the steps Government have taken or intend to take to meet this situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). The Handloom Industry in Kerala faced certain problems in the early part of 1977 due to accumulation of stocks. For clearing the stocks, the State Government sanctioned a rebate of 10 per cent on sales from 1st February, 1977. During March and April, 1977 the rebate was increased to 20 per cent shared equally between the Government of India and the State Government. In addition, a special loan of Rs. 1.25 crores was sanctioned by Government of India to the State Government to enable them to procure accumulated handloom cloth from the production units.

It has been reported that sales worth Rs. 2 crores have been effected during rebate period.

(c) and (d). Illegal production of "Crepe" by Powerlooms had been one of the factors responsible for accumulation of handloom products. Demand for Crepe in export market had also fallen. State Governments have been requested to enforce the provisions of the Reservation Order strictly. There had been rise in prices of yarn in the last 12 months. Substantial imports of cotten and other fibres have been arranged in an effort to meet the shortfall in cotton, due to which yarn prices have been ruling high. It is hoped to stabilise prices of yarn in the coming months.

The rise in prices of dyes and chemicals is being met, to the extent possible, by arranging direct bulk supplies from the manufacturers, to the Apex Societies and Handloom Corporations.

Misuse of Import Licenses

785. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of misuse of import licences reported to Government during the period June 26, 1975 to March 20, 1977;

(b) nature of misuse in each case;

(c) names and particulars of parties involved; and

(d) the action, if any, has been or is being taken on each case?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

सहकारिता क्षेत्र में भ्रष्टाचार

786. **श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सहकारिता क्षेत्र में विद्यमान भ्रष्टाचार को समाप्त करने के लिए सरकार का विचार देशव्यापी सर्वेक्षण कराने का है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो योजना की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं तथा इसे कब तक क्रियान्वित किया जाएगा ; और

(ग) क्या कभी पहले ऐसी जांच कराई गई थी और यदि हां, तो उसके क्या परिणाम निकले ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) : (क) से (ग). सहकारिता राज्य विषय होने के कारण राज्यों में सहकारी समितियों के पर्यवेक्षण और उन्हें मार्गदर्शन देने की जिम्मेदारी राज्य सरकारों की है । तथापि, केन्द्रीय सरकार ने समय-समय पर सहकारी समितियों के कार्यसंचालन में ईमानदारी बढ़ाने के लिए राज्य सरकारों को मार्गदर्शक सिद्धान्त जारी किये हैं : इनमें यह सुनिश्चित करना शामिल है :—लेखाओं को उचित रूप से रखना, समय से लेखा-परीक्षा करना, बड़े पैमाने पर सहकारी संस्थाओं में समवर्ती लेखा-परीक्षा आरम्भ करना, और लेखा-परीक्षा में पाई गई कमियों को सुधारने के लिए कारगर अनुवर्ती कार्यवाई करना । इन मार्गदर्शक सिद्धान्तों में राज्य सहकारी कानूनों में यह व्यवस्था करने के लिए भी सुझाव दिया गया है कि किसी व्यक्ति द्वारा अध्यक्ष, उपाध्यक्ष, सचिव आदि जैसे मुख्य पद कितने कार्यकालों तथा कितनी संस्थाओं में ग्रहण किये जा सकते हैं । सूचित की गई अनियमितताओं के विशिष्ट मामलों में सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकारें आवश्यक जांच करती हैं और सुधार करने के लिए कदम उठाती हैं ।

Irregularities in Marine Products Export Development Authority

787. SHRI R. K. AMIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a special Audit was necessitated to find out the irregularities in the Marine Products Export Development Authority; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) After the present Chairman, Marine Products Export Development Authority took over, some aspects of expenditure were got checked by a Cost Accountant in February 1977. A regular internal audit of Marine Products Export Development Authority accounts was also undertaken in May, 1977 by the Internal Audit Wing of the Ministry of Commerce.

(b) The report of the Internal Audit Party has just been received and is being examined. The Government has not received the report of the Cost Accountant.

Compensation for Properties left in Former East Pakistan and West Pakistan

788. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) latest figures separately about the applications received by Government regarding compensation for "properties" left in West Pakistan and former East Pakistan by displaced persons declared as "enemy properties":

(b) separate figures of the applicants from two areas who received compensation so far and whose applications are pending and the amounts paid so far for the purpose, separately, to the applicants from two areas; and

(c) whether date of application from the refugees from former East Pakistan is proposed to be extended and a special office is proposed to be set up at Calcutta for expeditiously dealing with their applications?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). The requisite information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The date of receipt of claim application from the Indian nationals, Companies etc. whose assets in Pakistan were seized by the Government of Pakistan during and after the Indo-Pak conflict of September, 1965, was earlier extended from 31-12-76 to 31-4-1977. The C. E. P. is taking action to extend the date for the last time, up to 31st July, 1977. The question of setting up a branch office at Calcutta is under examination.

Introduction of New Air Routes

789. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of new air routes have been introduced since 1st April, 1977;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(c) whether any feasibility reports were ordered for examining their economic viability?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c). Air-India have included Jeddah in their network of air services with effect from 1-4-1977 and Indian Airlines have included Jabalpur and Raipur on the route of their daily HS-748 service Delhi-Gwalior-Bhopal-Indore-Bombay by omitting Gwalior on two days in a week, with effect from 5th May, 1977.

New services are introduced by Indian Airlines not only on the basis of economic viability but also for meeting the requirements of backward areas with a view to open them up. Traffic considerations are also kept in view. Air-India, while adding new stations on their services, keep the requirements of traffic in view.

सस्ते चांदी और जरी का निर्यात

790. **श्री बृज भूषण तिवारी** : क्या **वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वर्ष 1975–76 से अब तक निर्यात की गई सस्ते चांदी तथा जरी का मूल्य कितना है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार इस से संबंधित नीति में कोई नया परिवर्तन करने का है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो किस प्रकार का परिवर्तन करने का विचार है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) : (क) सस्ते चांदी और जरी के निर्यात के आंकड़े अलग से नहीं रखे जाते हैं। तथापि, 1975–76 के दौरान असली तथा नकली जरी तथा उसके उत्पादों का निर्यात 401.08 लाख रु० का हुआ और 1976–77 के पहले ग्यारह महीनों के दौरान अर्थात् अप्रैल, 1976 से फरवरी, 1977 तक 403.74 लाख रु० का हुआ ।

(ख) और (ग). इस संबंध में नीति में कोई नया परिवर्तन करने की फिलहाल कोई प्रस्थापना नहीं है ।

Scarcity of Essential Commodities

791. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:
PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:
SHRI UGGRASEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have not been able to take any action against the anti-social elements trying to exploit the scarcity of essential commodities;

(b) whether there was shortage of essential commodities in various States during the months of March and April, 1977; and

(c) the steps being taken to have a regular supply of essential commodities in the market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) (a) Enforcement of penal measures against anti-social elements trying to exploit the shortage of essential commodities is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government has advised the State Governments to have orders issued under the Essential commodities Act requiring the display of pri- issued under the Essential Commodities. The Central Government has initiated action against those licensees who are alleged to have misused the licences given to them for the import of edible oils under the free licencing system.

(b) and (c). Due to shortage in the production in the previous year of some essential commodities like cotton, oil seeds and pulses, the availability position was somewhat tight. During March-April, 1977, the position improved though the prices continued to be high. The immediate measures taken by the Government during March-April, 1977 to improve the supply of essential commodities to the consumers include:

(i) Release of more cereals through the public distribution system;

(ii) removal of the restrictions on inter-State movement of wheat;

(iii) increase in the releases of non-levy sugar for the months of May, June and July, 1977;

(iv) regulated export of potatoes and onions;

(v) continuance of imports of adequate quantities of edible oils through the State Trading Corporation and the private trade for supply to the Vanaspati industry and for direct consumption;

(vi) arregements for the distributions of refined imported rapeseed oil for direct consumption through the State civil supplies organisations at a retail price of Rs. 8.50 a kilogram in some high consumption centres to begin with; and

(vii) staggering, to the extent possible export cement.

As a long term measure, the Government is working out details of building up a massive public distribution system for a number or essential commodities.

Remittances by Foreign Banks

792. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank's ban on remittances abroad by Foreign Companies has been defaulted by some

Foreign Banks, and if so, which are those banks and what is the amount involved;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank has ordered the Grindlays Bank to bring back to the country Rs. 3.5 crores, wrongly transferred under "Head Office Expenses" during 1974 and 1975; and

(c) whether Government have looked into the accounts of the foreign banks who have transferred huge amounts under the Heading, Head-office expenses, technical know-how, Collaboration arrangements and Import-Export Trade Bills during the last three or four years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Reserve Bank have not placed any ban on remittances abroad by foreign companies including foreign banks. The profits made by the foreign banks after deduction of Indian income-tax are allowed to be remitted abroad. The Reserve Bank has intimated that during the past three or four years foreign banks have generally conformed to the control regulations regarding remittances to head office.

(b) Reserve Bank has reported that during the years 1973, 1974 and 1975, the Grindlays Bank was asked to repatriate a sum of Rs. 57.87 lakhs in the aggregate which was not allowed by the Income-tax authorities as head office expenses. Grindlays Bank has repatriated the aforesaid amount, paid tax thereon and has been allowed to retransfer the balance abroad.

(c) The amounts to be allowed as head office expenses are being looked into by the Income-tax authorities as and when the foreign banks are assesed for tax. Reserve Bank will also examine, during its inspection of these banks, what categories of head office expeness claimed by them can be considered as legitimate.

विश्व बैंक से सहायता

793. **श्री मीठा लाल पटेल :**
श्री ईश्वर चौधरी :

क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वित्त मंत्री ने अपनी हाल की वाशिंगटन यात्रा के दौरान विश्व बैंक द्वारा भारत को सहायता दिए जाने के बारे में बातचीत की थी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस बातचीत की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और

(ग) भारत को वर्ष 1977-78 में वहां से कितनी सहायता राशि मिलने की सम्भावना है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) से (ग). विश्व बैंक के अध्यक्ष श्री मैकनामारा के साथ मेरी भेंट के दौरान विश्व बैंक ग्रुप द्वारा भारत को दी जाने वाली सहायता के प्रश्न पर सामान्य बातचीत हुई थी । किन्तु वर्ष 1977-78 के लिए विश्व बैंक द्वारा दी जाने वाली सहायता की मात्रा के बारे में कोई चर्चा नहीं हुई थी ।

Foreign aid

794. SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to go in for massive foreign aid so as to remove poverty within ten years; and

(b) whether Government have worked out the blue-print of a plan for massive foreign aid and its meaningful utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. Self-reliance continues to be a major objective of planning.

(b): Does not arise.

Bank Credit

795. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the gross of bank credit during the period from April, 1976 to March, 1977; and

(b) the share of public sector industries, private sector, the share in the agriculture and the small scale industries out of it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Complete data on the sector wise and organisation-wise break down of credit expansion during the year 1976-77 have not yet become available. However, provisional data indicated by the Reserve Bank of India are set out below:

Sectoral Deployment of Credit

(Rs. crores).

Sector	Variations between March 26, 1976 and March 25, 1977.
GROSS BANK CREDIT ·	+2276
Of which :	
A. Public Food Procurement Credit · · · · ·	+669
B. Advances to Priority Sectors (including export credit granted to these sectors) · · ·	+774
(i) Small Scale Industry ·	+215
(ii) Agriculture · ·	+277
(iii) Other Priority Sectors ·	+282
C. Advances to other sectors* (including export credit granted to these sectors) · ·	+833
Of which :	
To Cotton Corporation of India ·	+120
To Food Corporation of India (Fertilizer) · · · ·	+23
To Jute Corporation of India ·	+9
D. Non-Food Credit (B+C) ·	+1607
E. Of them D—Export Credit ·	+219

*Includes large and medium industries and wholesale trade.

Contingent Workers in Bihar Civil Audit and Accounts Office

796. DR. SARADISH ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any petition from the Bihar Civil Audit and Accounts Office Association, Patna demanding to absorb 85 contingent workers in permanent posts; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under instructions from Comptroller and Aditor General's office, the Accountant General, Bihar, has undertaken a review in this regard and this will be completed expeditiously.

Advances/Loans made by Nationalised Banks and Public Financial Institutions to Maruti Ltd.

797. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the total advances and loans—secured or unsecured—made by the nationalised banks, other public financial institutions, and private commercial banks to Maruti Limited, Maruti Heavy Vehicles Limited, Maruti Technical Services, Maruti Aviation todate;

(b) the break up of these loans and advances institution-wise and company-wise; and

(c) whether these advances and loans were made to please the former Prime Minister and her son or whether they were based on sound lending principles?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c): None of the long term public financial institutions has given any advances or loans to Maruti Group of Companies.

In so far as financial assistance given by the commercial banks including the public sector banks to Maruti Group of Companies is concerned in accordance with the practice and usage customary among bankers and also in conformity with the provisions of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, State Bank of India Act, 1955 and State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, information relating to the individual constituents of all these banks is not to be divulged. It is, therefore, not possible to furnish the information sought for by the Hon'ble Member.

Government of India have constituted a Commission of Inquiry under section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, to enquire into the affairs of Maruti Group of Companies. The terms of reference of this Inquiry Commission, *inter-alia*, include all matters relating to the securing of accommodation, loans or other assistance from nationalised banks and other financial institutions by the Maruti concerns, including the eligibility of the said concerns to obtain the financial assistance sought for, the standard of care with which the applications were considered and the measure of conformity to the policies, practices, rules and directives for the time being in force in regard to grant of such assistance.

आयकर विभाग द्वारा मारे गये छापे

798. **श्री राघवजी** : क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आयकर विभाग में 1 जुलाई, 1975 से 31 दिसम्बर, 1976 तक (राज्य-वार) कुल कितने छापे मारे :

(ख) अनुमानत: कितनी आय छिपाई गई थी तथा इन छापों के दौरान कितने मूल्य की छिपी सम्पत्ति का पता लगाया गया तथा 31-3-77 को उसका अनुमानत : मूल्य क्या था; और

(ग) इसके परिणामस्वरूप कितना अतिरिक्त आयकर तथा सम्पत्ति कर वसूल किया जायेगा ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :

(क) आय-कर विभाग ने 1 जुलाई, 1975 और 31 दिसम्बर, 1976 के बीच 5115 मामलों में तलाशी लेने और माल पकड़ने की कार्रवाई की । तलाशियों के सम्बन्ध में आंकड़े राज्यवार नहीं रखे जाते हैं, क्योंकि बहुत से मामलों में एक ही कर-निर्धारिती के संबंध में एक से अधिक

राज्यों में तलाशियां ली जाती हैं तथा निरीक्षण निदेशक (जांच पड़ताल) और कुछ आय-कर आयुक्तों का क्षेत्राधिकार एक से अधिक राज्यों में होता है।

(ख) और (ग) : उपर्युक्त कार्यवाही के दौरान पकड़ी गई परिसम्पत्तियों की कुल कीमत 31.57 करोड़ रुपये थी। मामले कार्यवाही की विभिन्न अवस्थाओं में हैं। आशा है कि छिपाई गई आय की रकम, जिस पर संभवतः कर लगाया जाना है, पकड़ी गयी परिसम्पत्तियों के मूल्य से कम नहीं है, और मोटे तौर पर यह अनुमान लगाया जा सकता है कि उन पर देय आय-कर तथा धन-कर की रकम 15 करोड़ रुपए से अधिक होगी। अपेक्षाकृत अधिक ठीक-ठीक अनुमान लगाने के लिए काफी समय की आवश्यकता होगी, क्योंकि यह केवल उसी स्थिति में सम्भव होगा जब पकड़े गए लेखे और दस्तावेजों की छान-बीन और आवश्यक जांच की जायेगी।

Confiscation of Assets of Smugglers

799. SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the ill-gotten assets of the smugglers and whether any action has been taken by Government to confiscate the same; and

(b) if so, what?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H.M. PATEL): (a) and (b). There are reasons to believe that properties of the aggregate estimated value of Rs. 23.86 crores including movables worth Rs. 13.23 crores and immovable property valued at Rs. 10.63 crores have been illegally acquired by persons to whom the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976 applies. Orders have already been passed by the Competent Authorities appointed under the Act declaring that movables worth Rs. 2.40 crores and immovable property valued at Rs. 1.57 crores stand forfeited to the Central Government free from all encumbrances. Proceedings for similar action have been initiated in respect of the remaining properties.

Adverse Impact of Central Excise's Simplified Procedure

800. SHRI BHAGAT RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to the Central Excise's simplified procedure that small scale industries are being ruined since the introduction of this procedure on 1st April, 1976; and

(b) whether Government are considering to bring a change in this procedure?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. The scheme has been generally well received by the small manufactures, and out of approximately 20,000 eligible units, about 12,000 are at present working under this procedure.

The Simplified Procedure is a growth-oriented scheme. It has helped the small units by simplifying excise formalities and by permitting increase in their production upto 50 per cent, without incurring any additional duty liability.

The Simplified Procedure was introduced with effect from 1st March, 1976. Over 1000 of the units which opted for this procedure have recorded substantial growth in their production ranging from 50 per cent to over 100 percent.

(b) Government have been keeping the working of Simplified Procedure under review. As a result of the review, certain improvements have been made recently. An important change is that henceforth an assessee working under the procedure will not automatically cease to be eligible for it if his production increases by over 100 per cent (as was the case previously) but can continue to enjoy the benefit until his production exceeds 200 per cent of his base production or Rs. 5 lakhs, whichever is higher.

Exchange rate between Rupee and Rouble

801. SHRI S. KUNDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exchange value of rouble in regard to rupee has been increased by the U.S.S.R. and if so, what is the increased rate and the present outstanding debt in Indian rupees to be paid to the U.S.S.R.; and

(b) whether Government have agreed to the increase in the rate of exchange of rouble to rupee and if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H.M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The question of the establishment of a new parity between the rupee and the rouble has been and continues to be the subject of negotiations with the U.S.S.R. authorities. These negotiations are of a confidential nature and it would not be in the public interest to disclose at this stage the details of the various issues under conideration.

श्री संजय गांधी को बिहार सरकार का विमान उड़ाने की अनुमति

802. **श्री ईश्वर चौधरी :** क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या श्री संजय गांधी ने 21 फरवरी को बिहार सरकार के डाक विमान का उपयोग किया था जिसके लिए वित्त विभाग ने प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी को एक बिल भी अदायगी के लिए भेजा था ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या श्री संजय गांधी ने पटना से कलकत्ता तक विमान को उड़ाने से पूर्व अथवा उसके बाद में उनके मंत्रालय से अनुमति प्राप्त की थी ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) : जी, हां 3 मार्च, 1976 को 2662.50 रुपए का एक बिल बिहार प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी को भेजा गया था जिसमें विमान की कलकत्ता से पटना की खाली वापस यात्रा का कोई भाड़ा नहीं लगाया गया था । बिहार प्रदेश कमेटी ने इस राशि का भुगतान नहीं किया अत: तत्कालीन मुख्य मंत्री की इच्छानुसार 31 मार्च 1977 को 4897.50 रुपए का एक संशोधित बिल उन्हें (मुख्य मंत्री को) भेज दिया गया जिसमें विमान की खाली यात्रा का भाड़ा भी शामिल कर दिया गया । संशोधित बिल का भी अभी तक भुगतान नहीं प्राप्त हुआ है ।

(ख) क्योंकि उड़ान बिहार के तत्कालीन मुख्य मंत्री के नाम बुक करायी गई थी, अत : सरकार की अनुमति लेना आवश्यक नहीं था और श्री संजय गांधी ने इसी विमान द्वारा दरभंगा से कलकत्ता की यात्रा की ।

Tourist Traffic

803. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourist traffic declined this year and last year and if so, the main reasons therefor;

(b) what was the total decline this year in comparison to the previous year; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the tourist traffic?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). No, Sir, there was no decline in tourist traffic during the last two years. On the contrary, the tourist traffic has shown an upward trend during the last two years. As compared to 465,275 foreign tourists who visited India during 1975, the tourist arrivals during 1976 were of the order of 533,951 recording an increase of 14.8 per cent. During January to May, 1977, 243,985 foreign tourists visited India and recorded an increase of 19.7 per cent over the corresponding period of 1976.

(c) Although tourist traffic to India is having healthy growth, the Department of Tourism is intensifying its efforts to achieve even better results. Among the steps being taken for this purpose are:—

(i) Opening of new tourist offices in those areas of the world where there is good potential for tourist traffic to India. New offices will be opened during the current year in Tehran (Iran), Bangkok (Thailand), Kualalampur (Malaysia), Perth and Melbourne (Australia).

(ii) Production of tourist literature on India in 13 European languages instead of 5 as at present. In addition, Department of Tourism is prducing tourist literature in Arabic Persian, Thai, Japanese and Chinese languages.

(iii) Introduction of "Travel As You like" Tickets' on Indian Railways and "Discover India" Tickets on Indian Airlines payable in foreign exchange for the benefit of foreign visitors.

(iv) Relaxation of entry formalities such as issuance of landing permit on arrival to be valid for 30 days.

(v) Organisation of familiarization tours to India of travel writers'/tour operators from different parts of the world to enable them to see our facilities.

मध्य प्रदेश में विभिन्न स्थानों का पर्यटन केन्द्रों के रूप में विकास

804. **श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण नायक :** क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने देश में प्रमुख पर्यटन स्थलों की सूची में मध्य प्रदेश के चित्रकूट, खजुराहो और ओरछा को शामिल किया है ;

(ख) इन ऐतिहासिक तथा सांस्कृतिक महत्व के स्थानों का विकास करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है अथवा करने का विचार है ; और

(ग) चित्रकूट, खजुराहो और ओरछा के विभिन्न सुरम्य स्थानों और सांस्कृतिक स्थलों तक पहुंचने के लिए पहुंच मार्गों का कब तक निर्माण कर लिया जायेगा ।

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) (क) से (ग): फिलहाल केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र के अन्तर्गत पर्यटन केन्द्रों के विकास का निर्धारण इन केन्द्रों

के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों के लिए वर्तमान अथवा संभावित आकर्षण के आधार पर किया जा रहा है । इसे दृष्टि में रखते हुए खजुराहों में पानी की सप्लाई में वृद्धि कर के और वहां के मंजूरा यात्री लाज का विस्तार एवं नवीकरण कर के वह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों के लिए सुविधाओं की पहले ही व्यवस्था की जा चुकी है । खजुराहो में केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत एक शिविर-स्थल (Camping Site) का निर्माण करने के प्रस्ताव पर भी विचार किया जा रहा है ।परन्तु साधनों की तंगी के कारण मध्य प्रदेश के कई स्थानों पर जिनमें चित्रकूट और ओरछा भी सम्मिलित हैं, पर्यटन विकास की कोई योजनायें प्रारंभ करना संभव नहीं हो रहा है ।

तस्करों के स्थानों पर मारे गये छापे

805. **श्री छत्रा सिंह मुलशन :** क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या 1974–75 और 1975–76 के दौरान देश भर में तस्करों के स्थानों पर छापे मारे गए थे ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो राज्यवार कितने तस्करों को गिरफ्तार किया गया तथा उनसे कितना धन, सोना तथा चांदी, अलग-अलग बरामद हुआ, और

(ग) क्या इस प्रकार बरामद सम्पत्ति राज्य सरकार के खजाने में जमा की गई अथवा केन्द्रीय सरकार के खजाने में ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) से ग). सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और सदन-पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

कटिहार (बिहार) जूट मिल

806. **श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :** क्या **वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कटिहार (बिहार) जूट मिल अनेक महीनों से बन्द पड़ी है जिसके फलस्वरूप वहां के कर्मचारी बेरोजगार हो गये हैं ;

(ख) क्या बिहार सरकार ने सिफारिश की है कि केन्द्र सरकार उसे अपने नियंत्रण में ले ले, और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी तथ्य क्या हैं ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) : (क) बिहार स्थित कटिहार जूट मिल बन्द नहीं पड़ी हुई है । तथापि, कटिहार में राय बहादुर हरदत्तराय मोतीलाल जूट मिल (प्रा०) लि० नामक अन्य जूट मिल पर मार्च, 1976 से काम रुकने के कारण प्रभाव पड़ा है ।

(ख) और (ग) बिहार सरकार से, जिसने मिल को अपने हाथ में लेने की इच्छा व्यक्त की थी, अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे मिल की जीवन क्षमता का निरीक्षण करें ताकि एकक को पुनः खोलने के लिये संस्थागत वित्त प्राप्त किया जा सके ।

Money mobilised by Compulsory Deposit Scheme

807. SHRI K. A. RAJAN:
SHRI S. R. DAMANI:
SHRI S. G. MURUGAIYAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state the total sum of

money mobilised so far by the Compulsory Deposit Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL):

The gross amount of compulsory deposits made by employees of Central and State Governments, local authorities and of private and public sector units under the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Act, 1974 upto 3rd June, 1977, was Rs. 1764.68 crores.

Payment of Bonus to Employees of Banks

808. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees of the banks and those who were getting bonus have asked Government to release the same immediately;

(b) whether this bonus is to be given from the back date; and

(c) when the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL: (a) to (c). Government have recently received a number of representations for payment of bonus to tank employees. In terms of Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Act, 1976, bank employees are excluded from the purview of the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965. The bank employees were, however, paid ex-gratia in lieu of bonus for the year 1974 and 1975. The exgratia payment for the year 1976 has not yet been determined. The policy regarding payment of bonus in various industries is separately under review of the Government.

Increased Activities of Smuggling on Indo-Nepal Border and Coast of Maharashtra

809. SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggling activity has been again on the increase on Indo-Nepal Border and Coastal areas of Maharashtra;

(b) whether any smuggled goods have been seized;

(c) the value of the goods seized on Indo-Nepal border and Maharashtra Coast during the month of April, 1977; and

(d) whether any special steps have been taken to meet the increased activity of smugglers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL):

(a) Presumably the question refers to the trend of smuggling after lifting of the Emergency. The reports received do not indicate increase in smuggling on Indo-Nepal border and the Coastal areas of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c). The value of the goods seized on Indo-Nepal border and Maharashtra Coast during the month of April, 1977 is reported to be Rs. 10,31,398/- and Rs. 24,49,483/- respectively.

(d) Anti-smuggling measures are being reinforced. These measures include opening of new preventive check-posts on the Indo-Nepal border, exercising greater vigilance all along the Indo-Nepal border and the Coastal areas of Maharashtra, reorientation of intelligence network to get qualitative information about smuggling, patrolling of vulnerable areas on the Maharashtra Coast and land routes on Indo-Nepal border and intensive rummaging of ships arriving from sensitive ports.

Civil Air-worthiness Equipments for Air Safety

810. SHRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHATTACHARYYA:
SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether All-India Aircraft Engineers' Association has expressed misgivings that the recent change in the Civil air-worthiness requirements (CAR) could jeopardise air safety;

(b) whether the Indian Airlines authorities have refuted that;

(c) whether any thorough examination has been done to remove their misgivings; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). After the revised Air-worthiness requirements were enforced, a special report was called for an the working of the Engineering Organisations of the two Corporations from the two Corporations—Indian Airlines and Air India, as well as from the concerned Regional Inspection Offices of the Civil Aviation Department. The reports received from these sources do not indicate any lacuna in the working of the Engineering Organisations of the two Corporations, as per Revised Airworthiness Rules.

Multinational Corporations

811. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new lease of life was given to some of the multinational Corporations by merely keeping their applications under consideration for more than three years; and

(b) if so, the names of such Companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Income Tax Commissioners belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

812. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE & REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Inome-tax Commissioners in the country;

(b) the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them;

(c) the particular reason for low representation of these categories of persons on higher posts; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure adequate representation of the persons of these reserved categories on higher posts?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The number of Commissioners of Income-tax including these posted as Directors in the Directorates under the Central Board of Direct Taxes is at present 72. None of them belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe.

(c) and (d). Appointments to the posts of Commissioners of Income-tax are made by promotion of Assistant Commissioners of Income-tax on the basis of selection on merit. The eligible officers are considered for selection for promotion, in the order of their seniority and in accordance with the prescribed procedure, by a duly constituted Departmental Promotion Committee.

The ultimate salary in respect of posts of Commissioners of Income-tax is above Rs. 2250/- and no concessional treatment is provided for in the matter of promotions by selection to such posts. In the selections so far made for promotions to the posts of Commissioners of Income-tax, the Assistant Commissioners of Income-tax belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes were not senior enough to be included in the field of consideration. There are at present 49 Assistant Commissioners of Income-tax who belong to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and, depending on availability of vacancies and the pace of promotions, they can in course of time look forward to be considered for selection for promotion to the posts of Commissioners of Income-tax.

Banking Commission

813. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of the work so far done by the Banking Commission set up under the Chairmanship of Shri Manubhai Shah;

(b) whether the Commission's personnel are being changed and/or expanded; and

(c) when is the Commission expected to submit its report to Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Government, after a careful consideration of all aspects, decided that it would be better to wind up the Commission that was set-up under the Chairmanship of Shri Manubhai Shah to go into the question of restructuring of public sector commercial banking system. Accordingly, the Commission ceased functioning with effect from 22nd April, 1977.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Re-instatement of dismissed Pilots

814. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to reinstate all the dismissed pilots who participated in strike during the Congress regime; and

(b) the number of pilots dismissed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). Of the three pilots of Air-India who were removed from service for their role in the illegal strike in the Corporation in 1974, two have already been re-instated. The case of the third is *sub judice*.

Interim Report of Indirect Taxes Enquiry Committee

815. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appointed to review structure of indirect taxes headed by Shri L. K. Jha, has presented its interim report to Government; and

(b) if so, the salient points of the report?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report is treated as a confidential document at present. However, a summary outlining the salient points of the Report will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Raids on former places of Jaipur and Gwalior

816. SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the period of emergency there were raids on and extensive searches of the former palaces of Jaipur and Gwalior;

(b) whether vast hidden treasures were discovered;

(c) if so, the value thereof and how they were dealt with; and

(d) whether there is any truth in widespread reports that the then Prime Minister negotiated a private deal with Shrimati Gayatri Devi and Shrimati Vijaya Raje Scindia and stopped further search of the palaces and vaults?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). A search for treasure was carried out by the Income Tax authorities at Jaigarh Fort, belonging to the erstwhile ruling family of Jaipur from 10th June, 1976 under an agreement entered into between the Government of India and Col. Bhawani Singh. However no treasure was discovered, and the search was therefore abandoned in November, 1976.

Searches were conducted jointly by the Income-tax and Gold Control authorities in Jai Vilas Palace, belonging to the erstwhile ruling family of Gwalior during the period from August, 1975 to November, 1975.

As a result of these searches articles valued at Rs. 99.53 lakhs were seized by the Income-tax authorities out of which articles valued at Rs. 98.97 lakhs were retained under orders passed under Section 132(5) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Besides, articles valued at Rs. 107.02 lakhs were placed under prohibitory orders under Section 132(3) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 pending verification of the claims that the said articles had been disclosed in the Wealth tax returns: these articles have since been released/are in the process of release to facilitate payment of undisputed tax demand etc.

Regular assesment proceedings are in progress.

Particulars of the gold, jewellery, and articles seized by the Gold Control authorities from Jai Vilas Palace, Gwalior in October and November, 1975 are as follows:

Description	Qty. in Kgs.	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
Primary Gold	54	28
Gold articles	72	36
Gold ornaments	24	8
Total	150	72

Out of the total quantity of Primary Gold mentioned above round gold bars in the shape of 'Karas' weighing about 50 Kgs. and valued at Rs. 25 lakhs were also seized under the Customs Act.

Adjudication proceedings under the Gold Control Act/Customs Act are in progress.

(d) Searches at the former Palaces of Jaipur and Gwalior were concluded only after their completion in the normal course.

Donation of Money to Congress Party by Parties/Business House

817. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the parties/business houses who have donated money to the Congress party in the names of advertisement in the Souvenir of the party during January, 1977 to March, 1977;

(b) whether their advertisements have been printed in the Souvenir; and

(c) the amount of money paid by each party/business house?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Indian National Congress maintains its accounts on calendar year basis. Under the existing provisions of the I.T. Act, 1961, the income for calendar year 1977 will be assessable for the assessment year 1978-79. The return of income for assessment year 1978-79 will become due to be filed after 1st April, 1978 but before 30th June, 1978. In view thereof the required details will not be available till the filing of the return of income.

(b) The enquiry relating to the printing of advertisements in the Souvenirs can be made after the return of income for the assessment year 1978-79 has been filed.

(c) The amount paid by each party/business house will be obtained during the assessment proceedings.

Payment of Income tax and Wealth Tax by Director of Vishwayatan Yogashram

818. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of the Vishwayatan Yogashram, New Delhi has filed his income tax and wealth tax returns for the last three years;

(b) if so, the amount of tax paid during these years; and

(c) whether Government are aware that the said person has built properties in Delhi and elsewhere and evaded large amount of income and if so, whether Government propose to reopen these cases?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Shri Dhirendra Brahmchari, Director of the Vishwayatan Yogashram, New Delhi filed his returns of income for the assessment years 1974-75 and 1975-76 on 22-3-77 and for 1976-77 on 25-3-77. No wealth-tax return has been filed so far.

(b) The details of income taxes paid by Shri Dhirendra Brahmchari in respect of the last three assessment years are given below:

Assessment Year	Tax deducted at source	Advance Tax	Self Assessment	Total
1974-75	252	..	1012	1264
1975-76	252	1808	7565	9625
1976-77	936	..	12060	12996

(c) Income-tax Department has information in respect of only one property at A-50, Friends Colony, New Delhi owned by Shri Brahmchari. The construction of the property was completed in July, 1973. The question relating to the cost of construction has been referred to the Valuation Cell. The relevant assessment proceedings are pending. The question whether there has been evasion of income will be considered during the course of the assessment proceedings.

भागलपुर को विमान सेवायें

819. **डा० रामजी सिंह** : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भागलपुर को विमान सेवा के साथ सम्बद्ध करने की कोई आवश्यकता है और यदि हां, तो अब तक इसे सम्बद्ध न करने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ख) भारत के हवाई नक्शे में भागलपुर कब तक आ जायेगा ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख) भागलपुर के लिये सेवा परिचालन के बारे में 1973 में इंडियन एयरलाइंस ने वहां के लिये यातायात की संभावनाओं के साथ साथ परिचालन की आर्थिक दृष्टि से लाभप्रदता के पहलू का भी सर्वेक्षण किया था, जिससे यह प्रकट हुआ था कि भागलपुर के लिए विमान सेवा चालू करना एयरलाइंस के लिये बहुत ही अलाभकारी होगा । इंडियन एयरलाइंस की भागलपुर को विमान सेवा से जोड़ने की निकट भविष्य में कोई योजना नहीं है ।

Violation of Rules in Fraud case of Rs. 60 Lakhs in State Bank of India

820. SHRI MRITUNJAY PRASAD VARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether, apart from the judicial probe in the Nagarwala case in which the Delhi Branch of the State Bank of India was defrauded of Rs. 60 lakhs, Government, from banking point of view proposed to appoint another Inquiry Committee to go into the circumstances in which the rules of the bank were violated in this case;

(b) whether the State Bank conducted any departmental inquiry into this case and if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the measures taken so far and those proposed for future to check recurrence of such incidents in the State Bank or in other nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) State Bank of India has reported that it had deputed a Senior Official to conduct an investigation into the incident. The Investigating Official came to the conclusion that the system of checks and controls already in force in the bank provide adequate protection for the bank's interest and in the instant case, the Chief Cashier had acted in disregard of the rules laid down, thus allowing a fraud to be perpetrated. The bank has further indicated that on the basis of the departmental enquiry, disciplinary proceedings were initiated by it against Shri V. P. Malhotra, Chief Cashier who was dismissed from the service of the bank in November, 1972. The two Joint Custodians of Government Treasure, who were also found guilty of negligence in performance of their duties were also awarded suitable punishment.

(c) According to State Bank of India, the system laid down by the bank for the conduct of Cash Department's work is procedurally as fool-proof as possible and the incident in question, happened as a result of human failure rather than a failure of the system. State Bank of India has, therefore, soon after the incident, issued appropriate instructions reiterating the important rules laid down for custody and withdrawal of Government Chest and cash balances and made it clear to all the Officers and employees of the bank dealing with cash that any departure from the system laid down

would invite serious punishment. State Bank has also added that when the Internal Auditors of the bank audit the branches at periodical intervals, the bank's Inspectors specifically go into the system followed in the Cash Department and also check whether the relevant instructions and procedures of the bank are being complied with. Any further measures to be taken by State Bank of Indie and other nationalised banks in this regard may have to await the findings of the Enquiry Commission appointed by Government.

करकेन्द (बिहार) में डाकघरों के कर्मचारियों को मकान किराया भत्ता दिया जाना

821. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या **वित्त तथा राज व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हजार दुजार की जनसंख्या वाले शहरों में केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्म ारियों को मकान किराया भत्ता मिलता है ।

(ख) क्या करकेन्द टाउन, जिला धनबाद (बिहार) की जनसंख्या 1971 की जनगणना के आधार पर 51316 है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो करकेन्द टाउन स्थित डाकघरों के कर्मचारियों को मकान किराया भत्ता क्यों नहीं दिया जा रहा है और उन्हें यह भत्ता देने के लिए सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करेगी ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क). केन्द्रीय सरकारके कर्म ारियों को मकान किराया भत्ते की अदायगी के मौजूदा आदेशों के अन्तर्गत, कम से कम 50,000 की जनसंख्या वाले नगर पालिका कस्बों को, वहां पर काम कर रहे केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों को मकान किराया भत्ते की अदायगी के प्रयोजन के लिए 'ग' श्रेणी नगरों के रूप में वर्गीकृत किया जाता है ।

(ख) 1971 की जनगणना के अनुसार धनबाद जिले (बिहार में करकेंद कस्बे की जनसंख्या 51,314 थी ।

(ग) चूंकि 1971 की जनगणना के अनुसार करकेंद नगर पालिका कसबा था इस लिए वहां पर काम कर रहे केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारीयों को कोई मकान किराया भत्ता देय नहीं था । कस्बे की मौजूदा नगरपालिका की हैसियत का बिहार सरकार से पता लगाया जा रहा है और उस कस्बे में तैनात केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों को मकान किराया भत्ते की मंजूरी देने सम्बन्धी प्रश्न पर, सूचना मिलने के पश्चात् और आगे विचार किया जाएगा ।

Indo-Soviet Joint Programme to study Monsoon Data

822. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indo-Soviet joint programme to study monsoon data collected from over the equatorial Indian Ocean was given effect to recently; and

(b) if so, broad outlines of their achievements?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). To facilitate further understanding of monsoon, the International Council of Scientific Union and the World Meteorological Organisation have planned as part of the Global Atmospheric Research Programme a series of field experiments known as the "Monex" to be conducted in 1979. As a forerunner of this, a preliminary observational research programme is being conducted jointly by India and USSR during the period May—August, 1977. In this experiment known as Monsoon 77-four Soviet research vessels and two Indian Naval ships are participating and will be recording meteorological and oceanographic data over equatorial Indian ocean, Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Purchase of Airbus-300 Planes

823. SHRI GAURI SHANKAR RAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many Airbus-300 planes have so far been purchased by the Indian Airlines;

(b) when were the orders for each plane purchased so far placed;

(c) when each plane was delivered by the manufacturers; and

(d) whether Government propose to purchase any more Airbus planes?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Three.

(b) Indian Airlines entered into a Purchase Agreement with M/s. Airbus Industries for purchase of three Airbus A300 B2 aircraft on 31-12-1974. The Agreement was signed subject to the approval of the Government of India and Indian Airlines making financing arrangements acceptable to the Government of India for meeting the foreign exchange cost of the project. Consequent upon the approval of the Government of India, the order was confirmed on 29-4-1975.

(c) The three Airbus A300 B2 aircraft were delivered on the dates indicated below:—

(1) VT-EDV—31st October, 1976.

(2) VT-EDW—29th November, 1976.

(3) VT-EDX—29th December, 1976.

(d) Although Indian Airlines have the option for purchase of three more Airbuses, there is no proposal for purchase of more Airbuses at present.

Request from Kerala Government to export more quantity of Rubber

824. SHRI G. M. BANATWALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has recently requested the Central Government to allow export of more quantity of rubber;

(b) if so, how much more quantity has been asked for; and

(c) the decision of the Central Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c). Government of Kerala has requested for export of surplus quantities of rubber. However no specific quantity has been mentioned. The question of allowing export of surplus rubber during the current year is under active consideration.

Expenditure incurred by AIR India on Sales Promotion

825. SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred by Air India under the head "Sales Promotion" during the years 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77;

(b) what is the nature of expenditure under this head; and

(c) who is the person authorised to sanction this expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The expenditure incurred by Air-India under

the head "Sales Promotion" during the last three years, is as under:—

1974-75	..	Rs. 640.67 lakhs
1975-76	..	Rs. 967.18 lakhs
1976-77		Rs. 1300.00 lakhs

(b) The expenditure under the head "Sales Promotion", is incurred on advertisements, publicity and additional incentives for promotion of passenger and cargo traffic.

(c) The expenditure on Sales Promotion is budgetted and approved by Air-India Board. Funds are allocated to various regions and the concerned regional heads incur expenditure which is, however, monitored by the Commercial Department in Air-India headquarters.

Calicut Aerodrome

826. DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of representations have been made to Government for the establishment of an aerodrome in Calicut;

(b) whether there is a proposal before the Government to establish such an aerodrome in Calicut; and

(c) whether there was a proposal to convert, as a temporary measure the existing private aerodrome at Chelani into a Government aerodrome for flights of Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM & CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A project for the construction of an aerodrome at Calicut was included in the draft Fifth Five Year Plan. However, due to increase in the cost of operation consequent on hike in prices of aviation fuel and also their tight fleet position, Indian Airlines had to review their plans and found themselves unable to operate to Calicut in the Fifth Plan period. The project, had therefore, to be deferred.

(c) The question of reactivating a private airfield near Calicut was examined some time back. The matter was not pursued since improvements to this airfield involved substantial capital outlay.

Indianisation of Foreign Companies

827. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the foreign companies operating in India have not complied with the requirements of restructuring their equity holdings in accordance with the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Some of the foreign companies are yet to comply with the directives issued by the Reserve Bank of India under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act regarding Indianisation or dilution of foreign equity within the stipulated period.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India is taking appropriate follow-up action in all these cases. It is constantly monitoring the progress of compliance with the directives issued to FERA companies. In cases where the companies could not comply with the directives within the stipulated time limit, for some *bona fide* reasons, resonable extension of time was allowed on merits. Companies, which fail to comply with the Bank's directive, are liable for penal action under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

Representation from Sholapur Chamber of Commerce and Industries regarding direct Tax Laws

828. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a written representation in the month of April, 1977 from Sholapur Chamber of Commerce and Industries (Maharashtra) in regard to the Direct-Tax laws; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken on the said representation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. Such a representation does not appear to have been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Taking over the Management of Dhulia (Maharashtra) Textile Mill

829. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state when Government have taken over the management of the Dhulia (Maharashtra) Textile Mill?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): The management of Dhulia Textile Mills, earlier known as New Pratap Spinning, Weaving and Manufacturing Mills, Dhulia, vested in the Central Government by virtue of the provisions of the Sick Textile Undertakings (Taking Over of Management) Act, 1972 with effect from 31st October, 1972. Later on, this mill was nationalised with effect from 1st April, 1974, under the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1974.

Disparity in Pay and Allowances in Government Service and Government Undertakings

830. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state whether any action is taken/proposed to eliminate the disparity in pay and allowances for the similar jobs in Government Service and Government Undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): The present wage structure of Central Government employees is based on the recommendations of the Third Central Pay Commission. The Commission was also of the view that there should be a mechanism to ensure that pay scales of public sector undertakings should be fixed with due regard to possible repercussions on other public sector undertakings and on the Government's own scales of pay. The public sector enterprises are required to obtain the prior concurrence of Government to any general revision of pay and allowances of their employees. In examining such proposals, Government take care to see that unreasonable disparities are avoided in the wage structure as between different enterprises in the same industry or region and as between public enterprises on the one hand and Government Departments on the other.

Transfer of pending L.I.C. Policies from Calcutta Divisional Office

831. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expedite transfer of L.I.C. policies pending transfer from Calcutta divisional office to Madras divisional

office due to transfer of the policy holders; and

(b) how many such applications are pending for transfer and the causes for the delay in transferring such policies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The LIC is taking steps to reduce the time-lag for transfer of policies from one office to another.

At present 28 applications are pending for transfer of policies from the Calcutta Divisional Office of the LIC to the Madras Divisional Office. In 9 out of these cases, policies are in the processs of transfer, while 14 cases are pending for want of policy dockets and premium position and in the remaining 5 cases, which relate to Salary Savings Scheme policies, the premium account has to be regularised after tracing some of the premium remittances.

Rate of Bonus on Life Insurance and Endowment Policies

832. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of bonus being declared on the current Life Insurance and Endowment policies;

(b) the causes for declaring such low rate of bonus; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the rate of bonus?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The LIC's bonus has gradually increased from Rs. 12.80 and Rs. 16.00 per thousand sum assured per annum on Endowment Assurances and Whole Life Assurances respectively in 1957 to Rs. 17.60 and Rs. 22.00 in 1969 respectively. Despite improvement in the LIC's mortality experience and in the return on its investments, no further increase in the bonus has been possible since 1969 owing to the adverse effect of inflation on its expenses.

(c) To counteract the adverse effect of inflation, the LIC is taking steps to maintain improvement in the return on its funds, by a judicious choice of investments within the statutory framework, and to limit its expenses by budgetary control measures. With a view to containing its expenses, the LIC has restricted recruitment of staff, curtailed overtime drastically and has also made a detailed exercise to simplify procedures, so that the Offices can cope with increased volume of work wihout increase in staff strength.

Incentive to attract more Foreign.. Exchange

833. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to attract foreign exchange to the maximum;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration to give incentives to those who declared voluntarily their foreign exchange reserves as was done in the scheme for voluntary disclosure of income in 1975-76; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b) Government have introduced a number of schemes in the past to promote flow

of inward remittances. The position is kept under constant review to see whether there is need to modify these or introduce new schemes with a view to increasing the flow of inward remittances.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

अशोक होटल कर्मचारी यूनियन

834. **श्री शिव नारायण सरसूनिया :** क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अशोक होटल के कर्मचारियों की एक विशेष यूनियन को कुछ दुकानें, ऋण तथा बिजली उपलब्ध कराई गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किस तारीख से; और

(ग) कितनी राशि के ऋण तथा बिजली प्रभार अब तक वसूल नहीं किये गये है और ये राशियां कब से बकाया है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोतम कौशिक) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नही उठते ।

भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम के होटलों के मैनेजरों को दिये गये टेलीफोन

835. **श्री शिव नारायण सरसूनिया :** क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम ने दिल्ली के होटलों के कुछ मैनेजरों को टेलीफोन दे रखे हैं जबकि वे जिन होटलों में कार्य करते हैं वहीं रह रहे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या कितनी है और इससे मासिक व्यय कितना आता है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां । दिल्ली स्थित भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम के छः होटलों में से तीन के प्रबंधकों को सीधे आवासीय (रेजिडेंशल) टेलीफोन दिये हुए हैं । एक अन्य प्रबंधक के पास एक कार्यालय-व-आवासीय टेलीफोन है । 1976-77 के दौरान डाक तार विभाग से प्राप्त बिलों के आधार पर इन टेलीफोनों का औसत मासिक व्यय लगभग 1,170 रुपए बैठता है ।

अशोक होटल के कोष से दिया गया ऋण

836. **श्री शिव नारायण सरसूनिया :** क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम के जनरल मैनेजर ने दिल्ली प्रशासन के एक अधिकारी को अशोक होटल के कोष से ऋण दिया था ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितना ऋण दिया गया और यह कब वापस दिया गया तथा यह ऋण देने के कारण क्या है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) और (ख) मामले की जांच की जा रही है ।

भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम में नियमावली

837. **श्री शिव नारायण सरसूनिया :** क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम के अधिकारियों के पास कोई नियमावली

नहीं है और यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ख) यदि ऐसी कोई नियमावली हो तो क्या उसकी एक प्रति सभा-पटल पर रखी जाएगी ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोतम कौशिक): भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम के अधिकारियों की नौकरी की शर्तों को शासित करने वाले नियमों एवं विनियमों को एक नियमावली (मैनुअल) के रूप में अभी अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है क्योंकि कुछ वर्तमान नियमों को अद्यतन रूप देने (अप-डेटिंग) का कार्य अभी चल रहा है ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Missing Credits in Provident Fund Accounts

838. SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of missing credits in Provident Fund accounts of Central Government employees and reasons therefor;

(b) the broad classification of the amount as unsettled for more than five years, ten years and above;

(c) the number of cases of Provident Fund subscribers whose accounts were not fully and finally settled at the time of retirement because of missing credits;

(d) the action taken to remove consequent hardships to the subscribers; and

(e) the impact of the scheme of separation of accounts from audit on the settlement of the long outstanding cases of missing credits?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). Following the departmentalisation of Central Government accounts, the process of transfer of G. P. Fund accounts of Central Government employees by the Accountants General to the departmental Accounts Officers is continuing. Details regarding missing credits, their classification into more than 5 years old or 10 years old items and the number of final payment cases which could not be settled due to missing credits are being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House. Missing credits generally occur due to defective preparation of schedules by drawing officers, incorrect account numbers, recovery of subscription before allotment of account numbers, loss of schedules in transit, mis-classification of credits in accounts, and transfers of Government servants between Departments and delays in remittance of subscription of Government servants on foreign service/deputation/duty from one accounts organisation to another.

(d) Every effort is being made to trace the correct account numbers in cases of unposted items of credits; to verify missing credits from drawing officers and the schedules in which recoveries were recorded; to adjust credits by transfer between Accounts Officers where recoveries have been accounted for by an Accounts Officer different from the one maintaining the Provident Fund accounts; to adjust credits on the basis of collateral evidence, etc.

(e) With the departmentalisation of accounts in the Central Civil Ministries and Departments, Provident Fund accounts of Group A, B & C officers are maintained by the Pay and Accounts Officers themselves who are responsible for making payments of salaries and allowances. Such a decentralisation in account keeping eliminates the major causes which

give rise to missing credits. The Pay and Accounts Officers being in closer touch with the departmental drawing and disbursing officers, are in a better position to trace the outstanding missing credits and settle them on the basis of direct or collateral evidence.

राजस्थान में विकास योजनाओं के लिए विश्व बैंक से ऋण

839. **श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल** : क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि विश्व बैंक द्वारा राजस्थान में विकास योजनाओं के लिए चालू वर्ष में कितनी धनराशि दी गई और इसमें से बिजली, सिंचाई तथा कृषि के लिए पृथक्-पृथक् कितनी कितनी राशि नियत की गई ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : राजस्थान में अनुकूली अनुसन्धान (अडेप्टिव रिसर्च) और कृषि विस्तार तंत्र को मजबूत बनाने के प्रयोजन से राजस्थान कृषि विस्तार और अनुसंधान परियोजना के बारे में विश्व बैंक समूह से 31 मई, 1977 को बातचीत पूरी कर ली गई थी । इस ऋण करार के अन्तर्गत 130 लाख डालर की सहायता मिलने की आशा है ।

भारत में आये पर्यटक और विदेशी मुद्रा की आय

840. **श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव** : क्या **पर्यटन और नागर विमानन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1975-76 और 1976-77 के दौरान कितने विदेशी पर्यटक भारत में आये और उनसे कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की गई ;

(ख) क्या चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में और अधिक पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करने के लिए कोई विशेष प्रावधान किया गया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी रूपरेखा क्या है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) वित्तीय वर्ष 1975-76 तथा 1976-77 के दौरान भारत की यात्रा करने वाले विदेशी पर्यटकों की कुल संख्या क्रमशः 475,941 तथा 561.045 थी । वर्ष 1975-76 तथा 1976-77 के दौरान पर्यटन से होने वाली अनुमानित विदेशी मुद्रा की आय क्रमशः लगभग 131.9 करोड़ रुपए तथा 236.1 करोड़ रुपए थी ।

(ख) और (ग) पश्चिमी एशिया, पूर्वी एशिया, तथा आस्ट्रेलिया के क्षेत्रों में बढ़ती हुई पर्यटन मार्केटों का लाभ उठाने के लिये, पर्यटन विभाग का चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के दौरान तेहरान (ईरान), बैंकाक (थाईलैण्ड), ओसाका (जापान), कुआलालम्पुर (मलेशिया), पर्थ तथा मेलबोर्न (आस्ट्रेलिया) में पर्यटन की अभिवृद्धि हेतु नये पर्यटक कार्यालय खोलने का प्रस्ताव है । ये क्षेत्र अब "आपरेशन" नामक उस स्कीम की परिधि में भी आ जाते हैं जोकि भारत के पर्यटन अभिवृद्धिपरक कार्यों में एयर इंडिया तथा भारत सरकार के पर्यटक कार्यालयों के बीच निकट सहयोग पर बल देती है ।

पर्यटन विभाग 23 से 26 जनवरी, 1978 तक नई दिल्ली में प्रशांत क्षेत्र यात्रा संस्था के वार्षिक सम्मेलन का आयोजन कर रहा है । आशा की जाती है कि यह सम्मेलन विश्व के विभिन्न भागों से यात्रा उद्योग के लगभग 1800 नेताओं को

आकृष्ट करेगा । इससे हमें यात्रा परिचालकों के समक्ष अपनी पर्यटन सुविधाओं को प्रकाशित-प्रसारित करने का काफी अवसर प्राप्त होगा ।

Credit Facilities by Nationalised Banks to Weaker Sections

841. SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bulk of the loans granted by the nationalised banks goes to factory owners, capitalist groups, millionaires and multi-millionaires and big landlords and not to the deserving weaker sections, especially farmers, both in urban and rural areas; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for providing credit facilities in ample measure to the deserving weaker sections?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). It has been the endeavour of the public sector banks to ensure deployment of their credit in accordance with the overall national priorities and particularly to enlarge its flow to the weaker sections of the society like those engaged in productive ventures in the formerly neglected sectors of Agriculture, Small Industry, Transport Operators, Retail Trade and Small Business, Professional and Self-employment ventures and Education. Their outstanding advances to these sectors have increased from Rs. 441 crores, involving 2.6 lakh borrowal accounts as at the end of June 1969 to Rs. 2697 crores involving about 55 lakh borrowal accounts as at the end of September, 1976. The share of these sectors in the aggregate credit of public sector banks has increased from 14.5 per cent to 26.6 per cent over this period.

To achieve increasingly larger flow of credit to the small borrowers in the formerly neglected sectors, the main endeavour of the public sector banks has been to secure a reorientation of the attitudes and approaches of the bank employees so that they accord primacy to the end use of a credit rather than security offered for the same, as in the past. To assist this process credit guarantee organisations have been created which provide guarantee for the small loans extended by the participating institutions. Steps such as opening of rural branches in hitherto overlooked areas, simplification of lending procedures and practices, adoption of villages and cooperative societies, setting up of Farmers' Service Societies, setting up of Regional Rural Banks, participation in the implementation of special schemes such as SFDA/MFAL projects, Differential Interest Rate Scheme etc., have also enabled public sector banks to reach the weaker sections of the society in an increasing measure. Within these sectors, stress is being laid on provision of production credit to small and marginal farmers, landless labourers, artisans and craftsmen.

The accent on meeting the production credit needs of the small borrowers in the weaker sections of the society is being strengthened and public sector banks have been advised to ensure that their credit flow into neglected sectors increases to make them account for 33.3 per cent of their aggregate credit by March 1979. They have also been advised to step up their lendings through the rural and semi-urban branches in such a manner that these groups of branches have a credit deposit ratio of at least 60 per cent by March 1979 compared to 52.2 per cent in the case of rural branches and 45.4 per cent in the case of Semi-urban branches as at the end of June 1976. Banks have also been advised to revise their branch expansion programme to provide each unbanked Community Development Block with at least one commercial bank branch by June 1978.

अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जन-जातियों को ऋण देने के लिये योजना बनाना

842. **श्री उग्रसेन** : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों तथा समाज के अन्य पिछड़ी जातियों के लिए कम ब्याज दर पर ऋण देने की योजना बनाई है ;

(ख) इस योजना की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और उन्हें इस योजना के अन्तर्गत किस ब्याज दर पर ऋण दिए जायेंगे ; और

(ग) इस योजना का लाभ सुदूर क्षेत्रों में समाज के कमजोर वर्गों को पहुंचाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच०एम० पटेल) : (क) सरकार ने समाज के कमजोर वर्गों के लिए जिनमें अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और अन्य पिछड़े हुए वर्ग भी शामिल हैं, 4 प्रतिशत ब्याज दर पर ऋण उपलब्ध कराने के वास्ते विभेदी ब्याज दर योजना बनायी है ।

(ख) विभेदी ब्याज दर योजना के सम्बन्ध में सरकार द्वारा 24 मई, 1977 को जारी किये गये संशोधित मार्गदर्शी सिद्धान्तों की एक प्रति संलग्न है ।

(ग) यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कमजोर वर्ग इस योजना से अधिकतम लाभ उठायें तथा अग्रिमों का अधिकांश शहरी महानगरीय क्षेत्रों द्वारा न हथिया लिया जाये, इस योजना को चलाने वाले बैंकों को यह सुनिश्चित करना आवश्यक है कि योजना के अधीन दिए जाने वाले उनके अग्रिमों का कम से कम दो तिहाई भाग उनकी ग्रामीण और अर्धशहरी शाखाओं के माध्यम से दिया जाय ।

यह भी तय किया गया है कि योजना के अधीन दिए गए अग्रिमों का कम से कम एक तिहाई भाग अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के पात्र कर्जदारों को दिया जाना चाहिये ।

यह निश्चित करने की दृष्टि से कि जो व्यक्ति ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में स्थित क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों से सहायता लेते हैं वे इस योजना से लाभान्वित हों, प्रायोजक बैंकों को ऐजेंसी के आधार पर क्षेत्र ग्रामीण बैंकों के माध्यम से ऋण देने की अनुमति दे दी गयी है ।

विभेदी ब्याज दर योजना के संशोधित मार्गदर्शक सिद्धान्त

1. कार्यक्षेत्र और व्याप्ति

1.1 यह सारे देश में लागू होगी ।

1.2 **लक्ष्य** : बैंकों को चाहिए कि पिछले वर्ष के अंत के कुल ऋणों के कम से कम 1 प्रतिशत का 1.2 इस योजना के अंतर्गत दें ।

1.3 यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि इस योजना के अन्तर्गत अधिकतम लाभ ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों के कमजोर वर्गों को प्राप्त हो और अधिकांश अग्रिम शहरी महानगरीय क्षेत्रों में ही न दिये जाएं, इस योजना के चलाने वाले बैंक यह सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि इस योजना के अंतर्गत उनके अग्रिमों का कम से कम 2/3 भाग उनके ग्रामीण और अर्ध शहरी शाखाओं के माध्यम से दिये जायें । तदनुरूप इस योजना के अंतर्गत उनके अग्रिमों का 1/3 से अधिक भाग उनकी शहरी और महानगरीय शाखाओं से नहीं दिया जाना चाहिये ।

1.4 यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के व्यक्ति इस योजना के अंतर्गत लाभों का उचित हिस्सा पायें, इस योजना के अंतर्गत बैंक अग्रिमों का कम से कम 1 3 भाग अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के पात्र ऋण कर्ताओं को दिया जाना चाहिये ।

2. परिचालन अभिकरण

2.1 सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंक : विभेदी ब्याज दर योजना का संचालन सरकारी क्षेत्र के सभी बैंक करेंगे ।

2.2 गैर राष्ट्रीय कृत बैंक : जिन गैर राष्ट्रीय कृत बैंकों के पास लीड-जिम्मेदारी है वे कम से कम अपने लीड जिलों में यह योजना चलाएंगे । अन्य गैर राष्ट्रीय कृत बैंक भी स्वेच्छा के आधार पर इस योजना का कार्यान्वयन कर सकते है ।

2.3 क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक : क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक योजना के अंतर्गत, ऋणकर्ताओं को ऋण उसी दर पर उपलब्ध कराया जायगा जिस पर सहकारी समितियों से दिया जाता है। इसलिए ब्याज की रियायती दरों पर ऋण देने की इन बैंकों को अनमति नहीं होती । यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि इन बैंकों का लाभ पाने वाले व्यक्ति भी इस योजना का लाभ पा सकें, प्रायोजक बैंक, अभिकरण एजेंसी के आधार पर इन क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों को मार्फत उधार दे सकते हैं । इस प्रकार क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों के कार्यक्षत्रों के पात्र ऋणकर्ता वार्षिक 4 प्रतिशत की दर से ऋण प्राप्त कर सकेंगे ।

2.4 पात्रता का मापदण्ड : पैराग्राफ 4 में दिये गये वर्गों वाले व्यक्ति के पास यदि कोई ठोस जमानत देने के लिए नहीं है अथवा वह किसी सम्पन्न व्यक्ति की जमानत गारण्टी प्रस्तुत नहीं कर सकता तो भी वह इस योजना का लाभ पाने का पात्र होगा । बशर्ते वह निम्नलिखित मापदण्ड पूरा करता हो —

3.1 सभी साधनों से ऋणकर्ता के परिवार की आय शहरी और अर्ध शहरी क्षेत्रों में वार्षिक 3000 रुपये और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में वार्षिक 2000 रुपए से अधिक न हो ।

3.2 उसके पास कोई भूमि न हो अथवा उसकी भूमि की जोत सिंचित होने पर एक एकड़ से और असिंचित होने पर 2.5 एकड़ से अधिक न हो ।

3.3 अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के सदस्यों के पास भूमि की जोत कितनी भी होने पर वे ऋण के पात्र होंगे बशर्ते कि वह अन्य मापदण्ड पूरे करते हों ।

3.4 वह बैंकों की सहायता से ऐसे उत्पादक प्रयासों द्वारा अपने वर्तमान आर्थिक स्तर से ऊपर उठने में मदद पा सकता है जो लगभग 3 वर्ष की अवधि में अर्थ-क्षम हो सकेंगे ।

3.5 वह एक साथ दो वित्तीय स्रोतों के प्रति देनदारी नहीं स्वीकार करता ।

3.6 अधिकांशतः वह स्वयं और अपने परिवार के अन्य सदस्यों अथवा अपने कुछ संयुक्त साझीदारों की सहायता से काम करता है और नियमित रूप से वेतन भोगी कर्मचारी नियुक्त नहीं करता ।

व्याख्यात्मक टिप्पणी :

यहां यह आशय नहीं है कि इस योजना के अन्तर्गत अपनी पात्रता सिद्ध करने के लिए ऋणकर्ता से लिखित साक्ष्य प्रस्तुत करने की अपेक्षा की जाये । यह आशा की जाती है कि शाखा स्तर के बैंक अधिकारी ऋणकर्ता की आर्थिक तथा अन्य परिस्थितियों से परिचित होंगे । वे प्रत्येक मामले में ऋण मंजूर करने से पहले इस पैराग्राफ में दी गई शर्तों को ध्यान में रखकर यथावश्यक स्थानीय पूछताछ कर सकते है ।

4. पात्र व्यक्तियों के वर्ग : जो व्यक्ति आय और भूमि की जोत के मापदण्ड पूरे करते हों और मोटे तौर पर निम्नलिखित वर्गों में आते हों व इस योजना के लाभ पाने के पात्र होंगे । (सूची केवल उदाहरण के रूप में है और वह व्यापक नहीं है ।

4.1 कृषि और अथवा कृषि सम्बन्धी कार्यकलापों में लगी अनुसूचित जनजातियां अनुसूचित जातियां और अन्य व्यक्ति ।

4.2 वन उत्पादों को स्वयं इकट्ठा करने अथवा उनका आरम्भिक विधायन करने वाले व्यक्ति और दुर्गम क्षेत्रों में स्वयं द्वारा इकट्ठा करके किसानों और व्यापारियों को बेचने वाले व्यक्ति ।

4.3 कुटीर और ग्रामीण उद्योगों और व्यवसायों में सीमित पैमाने पर स्वयं काम करने वाले व्यक्ति उदाहरण स्वरूप ये काम : कपड़ा काटना और वस्त्रोंकी सिलाई, काफी सस्ते खाद्य पदार्थ बनाना, वस्तुओं और नित्य उपयोग की वस्तुओं को घर घर पहुंचाने की सेवा, सड़क के किनारे चाय की दुकान करना, स्वयं अपना हाथ ठेला और साइकिल रिक्शा चलाना, जूते चप्पल की मुख्यत: हाथ से मरम्मत करना, हाथ से टोकरी बनाना आदि ।

4.4 उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करने के इच्छुक होनहार निर्धन विद्यार्थी जिन्हे सरकार से अथवा शिक्षा अधिकारियों से वजीफा निर्वाह अनुदान नहीं मिलता ।

4.5. लाभप्रद व्यवसाय करने वाले विकलांग व्यक्ति ।

5. ऋण के निबन्धन और शर्तें : इस योजना के अधीन ऋण की शर्तें और निबन्धन निम्नलिखित होंगे :

5.1. ऋण की मात्रा उस योजना विशेष पर निर्भर होगी जिसमें धन लगाया जाये और वह इतनी पर्याप्त होनी चाहिए कि ऋणकर्ता अन्य श्रोतों से धन लिए बिना अपनी वित्तीय आवश्यकता पूरी कर सके । आशा है कि सामान्य रूप से इस योजना के अंतर्गत कार्य चालन पूंजी ऋण के लिए 1,500 रुपये और सावधिक ऋण के लिए 5,000 रुपये से अधिक नहीं होगी । असाधारण मामलों में विशेष रूप से संस्थाओं के मामले में और होनहार निर्धन विद्यार्थियों के मामले में अधिक रकम पर विचार किया जा सकता है ।

5.2 कार्यचालन पूंजी और सावधिक ऋण दोनों ऋणकर्ताओं की विशिष्ट आवश्यकताओं के अनुसार देय होंगे ।

5.3 मार्जिन धन की अपेक्षा पर जोर नहीं दिया जाएगा क्योंकि ऋणकर्ताओं का यह वर्ग समाज के सबसे कमजोर स्तर का है और मार्जिन धन सदैव प्रस्तुत करने की स्थिति में नहीं हो सकता ।

5.4 ब्याज की दर एक समान वार्षिक 4 प्रतिशत नियत की जायगी ।

5.5 स्थिर परि सम्पत्ति के अधिग्रहण के लिए सावधिक ऋण की अवधि 5 वर्ष से अधिक नहीं होगी । जिसमें मूलधन की अदायगी पर 2 वर्ष से अनधिक छूट की अवधि शामिल होगी । ऋणकर्ता के कार्यकलाप के प्रकार और योजना की अर्थव्यवस्था को ध्यान में रखकर प्रत्येक मामले में अदायगी का कार्यक्रम तैयार किया जायगा । ब्याज और मूलधन की अदायगी के लिए अधिशेष राशि का निर्धारण करने में स्वयं ऋणकर्ता की निर्वाह आवश्यकताओं के लिए पर्याप्त छूट दी जायगी ।

5.6 ऋण से खरीदी गई सम्पत्ति को बैंक के पास बन्धक रखा जा सकता है । इसके अतिरिक्त, एक प्रकार के ऋणकर्ताओं के समूह को ऋण के उचित मामलों में सामूहिक गारण्टी स्वीकार की जा सकती है ।

5.7 प्रत्येक ऋण को ऋण गारण्टी योजना के अंतर्गत कवर किया जायेगा । गारण्टी फीस ऋणकर्ता से नहीं ली जायेगी बल्कि बैंकों द्वारा वहन की जायगी ।

5.8 यदि बैंकों को प्रभारित की गई सम्पत्ति का बीमा आवश्यक समझा जाय तो उसका व्यय बैंक द्वारा वहन किया जायगा ।

5.9 यदि आवश्यक हुआ तो बैंक अदायगी के लिए आरम्भ में कुछ उचित स्थगन पर विचार कर सकता है ।

6. संस्थाएं : निम्नलिखित संस्थाएं इस योजना के अंतर्गत ऋण के लिये पात्र होंगी ।

6.1 अनाथालय और महिला आश्रम जहां बिक्री के लिए सामान बनाया जाता है और विश्वसनीय वित्तीय साधन अर्थात् धर्मार्थ निधि अथवा नियमित दान की व्यवस्था नहीं है ।

6.2 विकलांग व्यक्तियों के लिए संस्थाएं जहां लाभप्रद व्यवसाय चलाया जाता है और टिकाऊ उपकरण और अथवा कच्चे माल की लगातार सप्लाई उपयोगी है ।

टिप्पणी : विकलांग व्यक्तियों के लिए संस्थाओं, अनाथालयों और महिला आश्रमों को आय के मापदण्ड से छूट दी जायगी । फिर भी, यह सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि ये संस्थाएं धन का उपयोग केवल उत्पादक प्रयोजनों के लिए करें, न कि उससे अपना सामान्य प्रशासनिक और संगठन का खर्च पूरा करें। इन संस्थाओं की वास्तविकता के बारे में भी स्वतंत्र स्रोतों के माध्यम से जांच करना आवश्यक है ।

7. **अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लिए राज्य निगम** : बैंक, अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के कल्याण के लिए बने राज्य निगमों के माध्यम से ऋण दे सकते हैं बशर्ते कि निगम से लाभ पाने वाले, पैरा 3 में दिये गये पात्रता के मापदण्ड और इस योजना में दी गई शर्तें और निबन्धन पूरा करते हों ।

7.1 स्वयं निगमों को आय के माप [illegible] होगी ।

7.2 निगमों द्वारा बनाई गई केवल विशिष्ट और वाणिज्यिक दृष्टि से सक्षम योजनाओं के लिए उन्हें धन उपलब्ध कराया जायगा । निगम आगे कोई सेवा-प्रभार (सर्विस चार्जेज) नहीं जोड़ेंगे और लाभ पाने वालों को वार्षिक 4 प्रतिशत ब्याज पर ऋण दिया जायगा ।

7.3 लाभ पाने वालों से वसूली की स्थिति कुछ भी क्यों न हो, निगम, ऋण की वापसी निर्धारित तारीख को करने के लिए जिम्मेदार होंगे ।

7.4 यह सुनिश्चित करने की निगमों की जिम्मेदारी होगी कि जिन उत्पादक प्रयोजनों के लिए धन मंजूर किया गया है केवल उन्हीं के लिए उसका उपयोग किया जाये न कि अपना सामान्य संचालन व्यय पूरा करने के लिए उसका उपयोग हो । इस योजना के कार्यान्वयन के लिए किये गये प्रशासनिक और अन्य व्यय की लागत निगमों/राज्य सरकारों द्वारा वहन की जायगी ।

7.5 क्योंकि राज्य निगमों को दिये गये अग्रिम भारतीय ऋण गारण्टी निगम लिमिटेड की गारण्टी के लिए पात्र नहीं होंगे इस लिए राज्य सरकारों को, उधार देने वाले बैंकों को गारंटी देने की व्यवस्था करनी होगी ।

7.6 यदि निगम ऋण की किस्त अदा नहीं कर पाता अथवा इस योजना में दी गई किसी शर्त और निबन्धन का उल्लंघन करता है तो उसे और वित्त पाने का अपना अधिकार खोना पड़ सकता है ।

Employees in Export Inspection Councils

843. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees under different Export Inspection Councils of the Export Inspection Agency; and

(b) their category-wise breakup?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Total number of employees in the various offices of the Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection agencies are given below:—

Export Inspection Council Offices	Total No. of employees
Export Inspection Council Calcutta (Secretariat)	52
Office of the Senior Additional Director, Delhi	21
Regional Office, Bombay	18
,, ,, Cochin	8
,, ,, Delhi	17
Total	116

Export Inspection Agencies Offices	Total No. of employees
Bombay	243
Calcutta (Non-Jute)	214
Calcutta (Jute Scheme)	590
Cochin	323
Delhi	346
Madras	104
Total	1820

(b) Category-wise breakup is given below:—

Export Inspection Council Office

Office	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Total No.
(1) Export Inspection Council, Calcutta.	11	5	25	11	52
(2) Senior Additional Director, Delhi.	6	1	11	3	21
(3) Regional Office, Bombay.	6	1	6	5	18
(4) Regional Office, Cochin.	3	1	2	2	8
(5) Regional Office, Delhi.	3	1	11	2	17

Export Inspection Agencies

Offices	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Total No.
(1) Bombay	55	52	97	39	243
(2) Calcutta (Non-Jute)	38	36	105	35	214
(3) Calcutta (Jute)	24	42	328	196	590
(4) Cochin	43	77	131	72	323
(5) Delhi	50	50	185	61	346
(6) Madras	15	18	49	22	104

NOTE : (Group 'A' carrying a pay or a scale of pay with a maximum of not less than Rs. 1300 00).
(Group 'B' carrying a pay or a scale of pay with a maximum of notl ess than Rs. 900.00 but less than Rs. 1300·00).
(Group 'C' carrying a pay or a scale of pay with a maximum of over Rs. 290.00 but less than Rs. 900.00.).
(Group 'D' carrying a pay or a scale of pay the maximum of which is Rs. 290.00 or less.)

Development of Varkala as a Tourist Centre

844. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the decision regarding the development of Varkala in Trivandrum District of Kerala as a tourist centre is pending before the Government for a long period; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the long delay and the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). Two representations were received by the Government for the development of Varkala as a tourist centre. Since the development of Varkala as a tourist centre is dependent upon the construction of a road to the mineral spring and enlarging the tunnel on the backwaters, the State Government had been approached to do the needful in the matter. It regretted its inability to construct the road due to contraint on resources. As regards enlarging the tunnel the State Government has stated that it may take sometime more to finalise the investigations.

Air Passengers from Middle East to Cochin and Trivandrum

845. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a heavy flow of air passengers from the Middle East to Cochin and Trivandrum and they are experiencing great difficulties in getting accommodation in Bombay-Cochin and Trivandrum flights; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Indian Airlines have taken the following steps:—

(i) The halt at Goa from the daily Boeing 737 service Bombay-Goa-Trivandrum has been omitted, increasing the number of seats by 46 per flight.

(ii) Passengers travelling from Trivandrum to Bombay and from Bombay to Trivandrum are now allowed to travel via Madras without any additional cost, as a temporary measure.

(iii) The two daily HS-748 services between Bombay and Cochin now make a technical landing at Mangalore for lifting fuel with the result that now 44 passengers can be taken on the aircraft as compared to 38 previously.

Representation of S. C. and S. T. in Indian Airlines and Air India

846. SHRI PRADYUMNA K. BAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for less representation of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people in the Indian Airlines and Air India jobs; and

(b) the number of officers of SC/ST category that have been absorbed in the Indian Airlines and Air India respectively in the last as well as current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Konark Tourist Complex

847. SHRI PRADYUMNA K. BAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which Konark tourist complex has been neglected although it is regarded as one of the rare Architectural wonders of the world; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to build the new tourist complex there?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). In the earlier Plan periods, the Department of Tourism had constructed a Tourist Bungalow at Konark which is now being run as Travellers' Lodge by the Indian Tourism Development Corporation. Similiary, the State Government constructed a Tourist Bungalow at Konark, 50 per cent of the cost of which was shared by the Department of Tourism. In the Fifth Plan the development of tourist facilities at Konark has been included under the Cultural Toursim programme of the Department of Tourism. Accordingly, a master plan (land-use plan) of the area surrounding the sun temple has been prepared, location of facilities indicated and environmental planning also incorporated in the master plan. On the finalisation of the master plan in consultation with the Archaeological Survey of India and the State Government, responsibilities will be assigned to the agencies concerned for the implementation of the master plan.

Release of persons detained for Economic Offences

848. SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons released after the present Government came into power out of those who were detained on charges of economic offences; and

(b) whether Government intend to take any other action against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Consequent upon revocation of internal emergency of 21st March, 1977, 2034 smugglers and foreign exchange racketeers were released from detention under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974. 151 more detenus were released upto 4th June, 1977, after the present Government came into power.

(b) Necessary action under the normal laws is being taken against them.

Transfer of Pay and Accounts Office from Mathura to Nasik Road

849. SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the proposed transfer to Pay and Accounts office (ORs) Artillery from Mathura to Nasik Road Camp;

(b) whether there is no residential accommodation available at Nasik Road camp for the members of the staff and their families and educational and medical facilities are also lacking; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the matter in view of the hardships this transfer is likely to entail to the members of the staff?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Pay Accounts Offices (ORs), which maintain the Pay and Provident Fund Accounts of soldiers on the running ledger system, are an essential adjunct of the respective Regimental Record Offices and are generally located near them as they are inter-dependent on each other's records. The Artillery Centre and Record Office as well as the Pay Accounts Office (ORs), Artillery were originally located at Mathura. Consequent on the move of the former to Nasik Road Camp near Deolali the PAO (ORs) Artillery has also to be shifted there in public interest.

(b) No, Sir. The move of the office is to be effected in suitable phases taking into account the availability of adequate residential accommodation for the members of the staff and their families. Educational and medical facilities are also not lacking at the new station which is near Deolali and Nasik city.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Bank Credit to Sugar Mills

850. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks have refused to give credit to sugar mills for seasonal requirement recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total credit commercial banks have given to rice mills, sugar mills, jute mills, paper mills and cement factories from March 1976 to March 1977; March 1974 to March 1975 and March 1975 to March 1976?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). No specific instances of banks' refusing credit to sugar mills for their working capital requirements during the current crushing seasons have been brought to the notice of Government and Reserve Bank of India.

(c) Available data relating to outstanding credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks to the concerned manufacturing industries are set out in the table below:

(In crores of Rs.)

	Amount outstanding as on		
	April 25, 1975	March 26, 1976	March 25, 1977
Manufacturing Industry :			
1. Sugar	204	226	270
2. Jute Textile	101	110	118
3. Paper and Paper Products.	99	125	131
4. Cement	38	53	57
5. Rice Mills Flour and Dal Mills.	June 1975		Dec. 1975.
	48		66

Winding up of Banking Commission

851. SHRI GHULAM MOHAMAD KHAN:
SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:
SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Banking Commission which was set up last July, to examine the restructuring of the nationalised banks particularly to examine a more meaningful role for banks in rural development, has been wound up; and

(b) if so the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Shri Manubhai Shah resigned from the Chairmanship of the Commission on the 10th February, 1977. Government took this opportunity to examine afresh whether the Commission could continue with its terms of reference and, on consideration of all aspects, decided that it would be better to wind it up. The Commission ceased functioning with effect from the 22nd April, 1977.

Re-instatement of Dismissed Office-Bearers of Indian Pilots' Guild

852. SHRIMATI AHILYA P. RANGNEKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have re-instated the three dismissed office-bearers of the Indian Pilots' Guild; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK)* (a) and (b). Air-India have re-instated two out of the three dismissed pilots, viz., Capt. H. S. Hirani former Vice-President and Capt. D. S. Mathur, former General Secretary of the Indian Pilots' Guild. The case of Capt. S. S. Nadkarni, former President, is *sub-judice*.

Income and Wealth declared by Smt. Indira Gandhi and Members of her Family

853. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) details of wealth declared by Smt. Indira Gandhi and her family members in their respective wealth tax returns in the last three years;

(b) details of sources of income declared by Smt. Indira Gandhi and all her family members in their respective income-tax returns in the last three years;

(c) whether Government are in the know of any other sources of her income and income of her family members which have not been declared in the returns;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to re-open their assessments and scrutinize all their accounts; and

(e) whether Government proposes to inquire about their bank accounts in India and outside?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). A statement showing the wealth and the sources of income declared by Smt. Indira Gandhi and members of her family is annexed.

(c) to (e): Reports regarding the sources of income, wealth etc. of members of Smt. Indira Gandhi's family have appeared in the Press from time to time. The matter is under investigation and appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the law.

Statement

	Wealth declared			Sources of income declared
	Assessment year 1974-75	Assessment year 1975-76	Assessment year 1976-77	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Smt. Indira Gandhi	1,77,787	2,35,922	2,71,257	Salary, Government securities, debentures, shares, interest on fixed deposits, income from units, royalty and agriculture.
Shri Rajiv Gandhi	1,19,015	1,19,015	1,63,475	Salary
Shri Sanjay Gandhi	4,86,865	3,99,320	2,87,889	Salary, dividends, interest and house property.
Smt. Sonia Gandhi w/o Rajiv Gandhi	No wealth-tax return		filed——	Salary, bonus, commission, dividends, interest, Insurance Agency Commission, long term capital gain on sale of shares.
Master Rahul Gandhi minor son of Shri Rajiv Gandhi		Do.		Interest and dividends (Return of income filed for assessment year 1975-76).
Ku. Priyanka Gandhi minor daughter of Shri Rajiv Gandhi		Do.		Do.

Expenditure on Managers of Government Hotels

854. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the Managers of Government hotels in India in the last three years on accommodation and food;

(b) whether Government are aware that a huge amount of money is wasted on their maintenance etc.; and

(c) if so, the broad details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The total expenditure incurred on account of accommodation and food in respect of Managers of the I.T.D.C. hotels in the last three years is estimated at Rs. 5,74,313.

(b) and (c). A committee has been constituted to review the scale of existing residential accommodation

alloted to the General Managers/ Managers/Asstt. Managers of hotels/ motels and travellers' lodges of the Corporation and to recommend suitable standards for such accommodation in respect of different establishments.

Export of Onions, Potatoes and Dals

855. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) how much onions, potatoes and dals were exported to foreign countries during the last two years;

(b) whether the prices of aforesaid articles went up on account of export; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check the prices of these articles?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Export figures are given below:—

Quantity · ooo tonnes

Value · · · Rs. Lakhs

Items	1975-76		April—Dec. 1975	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Onions	112·0	1385	124	1370·25
Potatoes	30·0	348·17	24	364·95
Dals	6·9	220·00	7	226·64

(b) The export of these items has been of small quantities compared to production. Even small exports can affect domestic prices if due precautions are not taken. The increase in domestic prices of these items has been due to a number of factors.

(c) The exports of dals, onions and potatoes have been for the present stopped.

Rise in Wholesale Prices Index

856. SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR:
SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the continuing rise in the wholesale price index;

(b) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken to arrest the rise;

(c) whether Government have examined that the rise is not solely due to unscrupulous profiteering by certain members of the business community; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to bring the offenders to book?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Wholesale Price Index rose by 11.9 per cent during 1976-77. In April and May 1977 there has been a rise of 2.6 per cent, while in the corresponding period

of 1976 there had been an increase of 4.4 per cent. The rise in prices at this time of the year is partly seasonal in character and partly the result of shortfalls in the production of essential commodities like vegetable oils, cotton and pulses.

(b) Government keeps a constant watch on the situation and action has been taken to moderate the price rise through (i) the augmentation of domestic availability by means of imports (e.g. edible oils, cotton and man-made fibres) or by placing restrictions on exports (e.g. potatoes, onions, and tea), (ii) larger releases from Government stocks (e. g. foodgrains and sugar), and (iii) reduction of demand by enforcing compulsory usage regulations (e.g. 75 per cent use of imported oil in vanaspati manufacture, and 10 per cent use of man-made fibre in the manufacture of cloth), Government also intends to strengthen the public distribution system. To the extent that expansion in money supply has broadly affected the level of prices, Government has sought to curb its impact by following a stringent credit policy. Restrictions have been placed on lending by banks against sensitive commodities to prevent speculative stock holding, expansion of credit by banks has been made difficult by impounding a part of their incremental deposit resources, by increasing the statutory cash reserve ratio and by making refinancing of bank lending by the Reserve Bank more restrictive.

(c) and (d): As would be evident from (a) and (b) above, there can be many factors which lead to a price rise. Profiteering by the business community cannot also be ruled out. In order to check anti-social activities, the State Governments are making use of the powers under the Essential Commodities Act, and similar legislation relating to the stocking, price display, packaging, etc. of goods. Surprise raids and inspections are carried out by the enforcement authorities and defaulters prosecuted.

Separation of Accounts from Audit

857. SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of separation of accounts from audit has been fully completed in all the Ministries; and

(b) the extent to which the new scheme has succeeded in achieving expedition and flexibility of operations without sacrificing financial probity and prudence ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Under this scheme the responsibility for payment of bills, collection of Government dues and maintenance of accounts for receipts and payments has been given to the Departments/ Ministries of Government of India, except in regard to accounting of payment of pensions which continues to be the responsibility of the C.&A.G.

(b) Now that the Pay and Accounts Offices function as part and parcel of the Department/Ministry concerned, claims and dues are checked and paid expeditiously. Monthly accounts are now available to the Ministries/Departments concerned before the end of the following month and this facilitates better budgetary and expenditure control.

A system of pre-check of bills and internal audit has also been introduced to ensure that prescribed rules and regulations are followed.

रतलाम स्थित सज्जन कपड़ा मिल

858. **डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रतलाम स्थित सज्जन कपड़ा मिल को धागे के एक निर्धारित काउन्ट के उपयोग पर सरकार ने राजसहायता दी है;

(ख) क्या उक्त मिल निर्धारित से अन्य काउन्ट का उपयोग करके बहुत अधिक लाभ कमा रही है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार को भी इस बारे में कोई शिकायत प्राप्त हुई है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) :(क) सरकार ने सज्जन टैक्सटाइल मिल, रतलाम द्वारा उपयोग किये जाने के लिए धागे का कोई काउंट निर्धारित नहीं किया है और किसी प्रकार की राजसहायता देने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

मध्य प्रदेश में डोडा-चूरे से अफीम निकालने का संयंत्र

859. **डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय :** क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के मन्दसौर और रतलाम जिले में प्रमुख अफीम उत्पादक मिले हैं ;

(ख) क्या इन जिलों से भारी मात्रा में डोडाचूरे का निर्यात किया जाता था और वहां उससे अफीम निकाली जाती है ;

(ग) क्या मन्दसौर या रतलाम में अफीम निकालने के संयंत्र की स्थापना करने के लिए स्थल का चुनाव करने की दृष्टि से कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया था; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :(क) हां ।

(ख) जी, हां । इन जिलों से तथा पोस्त उगाने वाले अन्य क्षेत्रों से पोस्त की भूसी का क्षारोद (ऐल्केलाइड) निकालने के लिए बड़ी मात्रा में निर्यात किया जाता है ।

(ग) जी, हां । पोस्त की भूसी से क्षारोद निकालने के निमित्त एक संयंत्र लगाने के लिए उपयुक्त स्थान का चुनाव करने के लिए मैसर्स इंजीनियर्स इण्डिया लिमिटेड ने (मन्दसौर और रतलाम सहित) मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान के पोस्त उगाने वाले क्षेत्रों का 1976 में सर्वेक्षण किया ।

(घ) मामला सरकार के विचाराधीन है ।

अफीम की खेती

860. **डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय :** क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इस वर्ष ओले गिरने तथा असामायिक वर्षा के कारण अफीम की खेती को भारी नुकसान हुआ है ।

(ख) क्या इस अप्रत्याशित नुकसान के कारण अफीम उत्पादक नियमानुसार निर्धारित अपनी अफीम की उपज की औसत मात्रा सरकार को देने में असमर्थ रहेंगे;

(ग) क्या अफीम उत्पादकों ने इस बारे में सरकार को अभ्यावेदन दिए हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उन पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) इस वर्ष ओले पड़ने और असामयिक वर्षा के कारण मध्य-प्रदेश और राजस्थान राज्यों में पोस्त की खेती को कुछ नुकसान हुआ है। मध्य प्रदेश में लगभग 24 प्रतिशत और राजस्थान में लगभग 16 प्रतिशत नुकसान का अनुमान लगाया जाता है।

(ख) अफीम के काश्तकारों को, उनके द्वारा उत्पादित सारी अफीम, कानूनन सरकार को देनी होती है और इस प्रयोजन के लिए कोई न्यूनतम मात्रा निर्दिष्ट नहीं की गयी है।

(ग) और (घ). अगली फसल के मौसम (1977–78) में लाइसेंस जारी करने के लिए किसी काश्तकार की पात्रता निर्धारित करने के लिए न्यूनतम अर्हक उपज को कम करने के निमित्त कुछ उत्पादकों से अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं। अगली फसल (1977–78) के लिए न्यूनतम अर्हक उपज लाइसेंस जारी करने सम्बन्धी नीति बनाते समय निश्चित की जायेगी और ऐसा करते समय अफीम की फसल को प्राकृतिक कारणों से हुए नुकसान को ध्यान में रखा जायगा।

जीवन बीमा निगम के कर्मचारियों तथा प्रबंधकों के बीच बोनस संबंधी समझौता

861. **डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय :**
श्री प्रसन्नभाई मेहता
श्री दीनेन भट्टाचार्य :
श्री समर मुखर्जी :

क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या जीवन बीमा निगम के कर्मचारियों और प्रबंधकों के बीच जनवरी, 1974 में बोनस के मामले पर एक द्विपक्षीय समझौता हुआ था;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने जीवन बीमा निगम (समझौते में परिवर्तन) अधिनियम, 1976 के अन्तर्गत इस समझौते को समाप्त कर दिया था;

(ग) क्या जीवन बीमा निगम के कर्मचारियों ने इस अधिनियम को निरस्त करने और बोनस समझौते को मूल रूप में लागू करने के लिए अनुरोध किया है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) जी, हां। जीवन बीमा निगम के प्रबन्धकों और कर्मचारियों की यूनियनों के बीच 24 जनवरी, 1974 और 6 फरवरी, 1974 को द्विपक्षीय समझौते हुए थे जिनमें अन्य बातों के साथ साथ तीसरी और चौथी श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों को वार्षिक बोनस की अदायगी की बात भी शामिल थी।

(ख) इन समझौतों में बोनस की अदायगी से संबंद्ध धाराओं को जीवन बीमा निगम (समझौतों में परिवर्तन) अधिनियम, 1976 के द्वारा पहली अप्रैल, 1975 से रद्द कर दिया गया था।

(ग) और (घ). जीवन बीमा निगम के कर्मचारियों की कुछ यूनियनों ने जीवन बीमा निगम (समझौतों में परिवर्तन) अधिनियम, 1976 की वैधता को उच्चतम न्यायालय में चुनौती दी है और यह मामला उच्चतम न्यायालय में अभी विचाराधीन है।

Recommendations of Raj Committee on Agricultural Tax Structure

862. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering implementation of Raj Committee's recommendations on Agriculture Tax Structure; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). A statement indicating the position is laid on the Table of the House. From this it will be seen that four recommendations have been accepted; four others have not been accepted. In respect of the other recommendations, no decision has been taken.

Statement

Recommendations relating to Central Direct axes made by the Committee on Taxation of Agricultural Wealth and Income (1972)—Action taken/proposed to be taken

Sl. No.	Recommendation	Whether accepted or not.
1	There should be some arrangement to esnure that the tax burden on assessees with similar incomes does not differ sharply merely because of the fact that part of it is derived from agriculture. This can be achieved without bringing agricultural incomes under the charge of Central income-tax if such incomes are taken into account in determining the rate of tax applicable to evasion through the device of camouflaging taxable income as gains from agriculture.	
	(a) A suitable provision should therefore be made in the Income-tax Act, 1961 whereby both agricultural and non-agricultural components of a tax payer's income are aggregated and the tax on the non-agricultural portion is levied as if the latter were placed in the top slabs of the aggregate income. Integration of agricultural and non-agricultural incomes should take effect only if an assessee has taxable income exceeding the minimum exemption limit laid down for the levy of the Central income-tax. In determining the rate of tax on non-agricultural income, the agricultural income and non-agricultural income should be combined in the following manner and order : (i) the initial exemption allowed out of non-agricultural income (Rs. 5000 at present); (ii) agricultural income and (iii) the balance of non-agricultural income.	Accepted.
	(Paras 4·1 to 4·7)	
	(b) In computing net income from agriculture for the purpose of partial integration, all items of expenditure allowed under the Income-tax Act in the computation of income from business or profession, including depreciation of machinery and tools used in agriculture, should be deducted from gross receipts.	Accepted.

1	2	3
	(c) To avoid harassment to assessees, however rules should be framed by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government and the proposed all-India Committee on Agriculture Holdings Tax prescribing the maximum scale of expenses allowable under the major heads in computation of agricultural income in different districts/tracts. (Para 4·13)	Decision has not been taken.
	(d) The liability on account of the proposed Agricultural Holdings Tax should not be allowed as deductible expenditure while computing agricultural income. (Para 4·14)	Decision has not been taken.
	(e) Losses incurred in agricultural should be allowed to be set-off only against gains from agriculture. (Para 4·15)	Accepted.
2	Administrative arrangements should be made for certification of the extent of the aggregate agricultural holding of assessees, the nature of crops grown and the rateable value of the holdings by an appropriate revenue authority designated by the State Governments in each district. (Paras 4·16 & 4·17)	Decision has not been taken.
3	The additional revenue realised as a result of the partial integration of agricultural with non-agricultural income in the above manner should go entirely to the State of origin of the agricultural income so aggregated. (Para 4·18)	Decision has not been taken.
4	Wealth-tax should be levied on a family basis. The basic exemption limit may be raised to 1·5 lakhs and all other exemptions done away with as far as possible. If the exemption limit is so fixed few families in agriculture would be required to pay any wealth-tax on their own agricultural holdings, unless they have substantial assets in other forms as well. With the removal of all exemption other than that provided by the basic exemption limit, there would be a case for lowering the rates of tax in order that assessees on the margin of the exempted limit are not too heavily burdened.	Decision has not been taken.
5	(a) Value of shares in companies and cooperatives should be included in full in the taxable wealth of the share-holders and their market worth determined rigorously.	Decision has not been taken.
	(b) No concession should be given to religious and charitable trusts in the matter of wealth-tax. (Paras 5·9 to 5·12)	Not accepted. Income of religious and charitable trusts is exempt from tax subject to safeguards against misuse of trust funds and income. Similar safeguards have been provided in relation to wealth-tax. In view of this position, there does not appear to be any good reason for levying wealth-tax on such trusts.

1	2	3
6	Valuation of farm lands for wealth-tax purposes, should generally be made through the method of income-capitalization. A simple and adequate method would be to take 4 to 6 times the rateable value of a holding averaged over a period of years. Guide-lines may be issued to the assessing officers regarding factors to be kept in view while taking a decision about the figure of the multiplier to be adopted for income-capitalisation. (Paras 5·13 to 5·18)	Decision has not been taken.
7	(a) The definition of capital asset should be so widened as to permit taxation on capital gains from transfer of all agricultural lands irrespective of their location.	Not accepted for the present. But will be recosidered after views of State Govts. on Raj Committee's recommendations are available.
	(b) Gains from transaction in assets held for not more than a year should be treated as ordinary income and taxed accordingly.	Not accepted. Wanchoo Committee's recommendation on this point was preferred.
	(c) To mitigate the inequity involved in the taxation of capital gains derived from sale of assets held for more than a year at progressive rates a method of prorating the long-term capital gains over a number of years without reopening any back year's assessment may be followed.	Decision has not been taken.
	(d) Treatment of losses on long-term capital assets might continue as at present.	Accepted.
	(e) The exemption of long-term capital gains from tax currently allowed (when a non-corporate assessees's income does not exceed Rs. 10,000/- or when the gains are less than Rs. 50,000/-) should go once the prorating method is adopted. (Paras 5·19 to 5·25)	Decision has not been taken.
8	(a) As has been suggested for the AHT, the basic unit of assessment for income-tax and wealth-tax also should be the family consisting of the husband, wife and minor children being the unit of income-receipt, of consumption and all related decision making;	Decision has not been taken.
	(b) However, when the family is made the tax unit, a deduction may be allowed from salary income at the rate of 10 per cent of the joint income of the spouses when both are employed outside the household (and 20 per cent of the income of a surviving spouse with minor children to maintain subject to a maximum of Rs. 2000/- (Paras 6·1 to 6·12)	
	(c) With the adoption of the family as the basic tax unit, the recognition of the Hindu Undivided Family as a tax entity should be withdrawn. (Paras 6·13 and 6·14)	
	Income from livestock-breeding and poultry and dairy farming, which is now exempt from taxation should be subjected to income-tax.	Not accepted. In view of the undeveloped State of livestock breeding and dairy poultry farming, it was decided that taxation of such incomes should not be considered at this stage.

Setting up of a Dry Port at Tughlakabad, Delhi

863. SHRI VASANT SATHE:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for setting up a dry port at Tughlakabad, Delhi; and

(b) if so, at what stage of consideration/decision the proposal stands?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Government have decided, in principle, to establish a dry port in the northern region. The actual location has not yet been decided.

Nationalisation of Banks having Deposits above Rs. 50 Crores

864. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to nationalise the banks with deposits of over Rs. 50 crores; and

(b) the names of banks with deposits of over Rs. 50 crores?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUS AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) Reserve Bank of India have reported that, as on the last Friday of March, 1977, the following private sector banks had deposits of over Rs. 50 crores:

Indian Private Sector banks

Andhra Bank Ltd.
Punjab and Sind Bank Ltd.
New Bank of India Ltd.
Vijaya Bank Ltd.
Corporation Bank Ltd.
Oriental Bank of Commerce Ltd.
Federal Bank Ltd.
Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.
Bank of Madura Ltd.
Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.

Foreign Banks

Grindlays Bank Ltd.
Chartered Bank Ltd.
Mercantile Bank Ltd.
Citi Bank N.A.
American Express International Banking Corporation.
Bank of America.

सरकारी कर्मचारियों को महगाई भत्ता

865. **श्री के० लक्कप्पा :**
श्री एस० आर० दामाणी :
श्री रामानन्द तिवारी

क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मूल्यों में वृद्धि के कारण सरकारी कर्मचारियों को मंहगाई भत्ते की एक और किस्त देय हो गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसकी घोषणा न किए जाने के क्या कारण है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल)

(क) जी नहीं, केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों को महंगाई भत्ते की अदायगी फिलहाल सूचकांक आंसत 304 के संदर्भ में की जाती है जबकि अप्रैल, 1977 के अंत में सूचकांक आंसत केवल 303 था ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Memorandum from All India Reserve Bank Employees' Association Regarding Re-linking of Reserve Bank/ IDBI and UTI

866. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to re-link Reserve Bank, Industrial Development Bank of India and Unit Trust of India;

(b) whether Government have received memorandum from the All-India Reserve Bank Employees Association in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The Industrial Development Bank of India and the Unit Trust of India were de-linked from the Reserve Bank of India, in terms of the provisions of the Public Financial Institutions Laws (Amendment) Act 1975, with effect from the 16th February, 1976.

Government have recently received a memorandum from the All-India Reserve Bank of India Employees' Association which *inter-alia* includes a request for relinking the Industrial Development Bank of India and the Unit Trust of India with the Reserve Bank of India. A representation has also been received by Government from the Industrial Development Bank of India Officers' Association, against relinking the Industrial Development Bank of India and the Unit Trust of India with the Reserve Bank of India.

Government have no proposal under consideration to relink the Industrial Development Bank of India and the Unit Trust of India with the Reserve Bank of India.

Steps to Develop Tourist Spots in Eastern States

867. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR DHARA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that have been taken to better the conditions of places of tourist interest and importance in West Bengal and other Eastern States;

(b) the reasons for which the steps taken have not been able to bring about desired results in catching up the fancies of foreign tourists; and

(c) whether there is any possibility, in the near future, to develop the tourist spots old or new, in these States in the manner in which such spots in other parts of the country, have been beautified and improved at considerable costs?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c): For promoting tourist traffic to the States in the Eastern Region, various facilities have been provided in the Central Sector in the form of tourist bungalows, youth hostels, forest lodges, hotels, transport units, duty-free shops etc. In addition, master plan of Konark (around the sun temple), Rajgir and Nalanda have been prepared which cover area and environmental planning, identification and location of facilities. Development of facilities at these places will be undertaken as sson as responsibilities are assigned to agencies concerned in the Central and State sectors. A master plan on similar lines of the area surrounding the Mahabodhi Temple at Bodh Gaya will also be undertaken during the current plan period. Funds have also been released to the State Government for the acquisition of transfer of about 22 acres of land around the Mahabodhi Temple. Action on this by the State Government is awaited.

Other measures taken to promote this region among tourists are production of tourist literature, films and other display material on selected tourist centres in the region.

A Regional Tourist Office of the Central Department of Tourism also functions at Calcutta which promotes the Eastern Region among tourists, maintains close liaison with the State Governments and the travel industry, and collects and disseminates information on tourist centres in the Eastern Region.

Entry formalities for visit to Darjeeling, Shillong and Kaziranga by international tourists have been liberalised.

All the above measures have helped to increase the flow of tourists to the Eastern region.

Efficiency in Nationalised Banks

868. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR DHARA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the efficiency, promptness to dealings and the general behaviour of the managements and staff of such of the banks which had been nationalised have undergone perceptible change towards worse after the nationalisation;

(b) whether it is proposed to bring about improvement in working of these banks; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) There has so far been no appraisal by banks in India on the basis of which a comparison could be made of the service available to the customers in the non-nationalised banks and the nationalised banks during any particular period.

(b) and (c). Continual watch is kept for bringing about improvements in the service rendered by the nationalised banks to their customers. Remedial action is taken whenever specific complaints are received.

In March, 1975, Government appointed a Working Group to identify problems and to make recommendations for improving customer service in banks. Majority of the recommendations of the Working Group, made in its Interim Report, and covering (i) deposit accounts, (ii) remittances and collections, (iii) loans and advances, (iv) Government business, and (v) discipline and attitudes, were accepted and brought to the notice of all public sector banks for implementation.

Improving the efficiency of banks, with a view to rendering better and speedy service to the public, is one of the important terms of reference of the James Raj Committee recently set up by the Reserve Bank.

पश्चिमी देशों से भारत आये पर्यटक

869. **श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी** : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 26 अप्रैल, 1977 के 'इंडियन एक्सप्रेस' में प्रकाशित 'काक्स एण्ड किंग्स' के एक प्रतिनिधि श्री डी० ए० सिअर्सन के उस वक्तव्य की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें उन्होंने उन कारणों का उल्लेख किया है जिनसे पश्चिमी देशों से पर्यटक अधिक संख्या में भारत में नहीं आते ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : जी हां।

(ख) : मैसर्स काक्स एण्ड किंग्स; लंदन के श्री डी० ए० सियर्सन ने एक्सप्रेस के संवाददाता के साथ भेंटवार्ता में उन कारणों के बारे में अपने कुछ

मत व्यक्त किए है जिनकी वजह से पाश्चात्य पर्यटक अधिक संख्या में भारत की यात्रा नहीं करते । वह प्रमुख कारण जो हमारे लिए चिंता का विषय है विदेशों में भारत के बारे में स्वास्थ्य विषयक सफाई और स्वच्छता के अभाव और व्यापक दरिद्रता की धारणा है । श्री सियर्सन ने स्वयं स्वीकार किया है कि हाल के वर्षों में स्वच्छता और सफाई के मामले में काफी अधिक सुधार हुआ है ।

पर्यटन विभाग निरीक्षणों के माध्यम से विदेशी पर्यटकों के लिए उनकी उपयुक्तता को दृष्टि से अनुमोदित होटलों में स्वास्थ्य की दृष्टि से स्वच्छता और सफाई के निर्धारित मानकों को लागू कराने का प्रयत्न करता है । हमारे अधिक अच्छी श्रेणी के अधिकांश होटलों में पानी साफ करने के प्लांट लगे हुए हैं ताकि ऐसी घटनाओं को कम किया जा सके जिनका श्री सियर्सन "दिल्ली बैली" के नाम से उल्लेख करता है ।

श्री सियर्सन ने इंडियन एयरलाइन्स द्वारा उड़ानों की समय-सारिणी तैयार करने के बारे में कुछ सुझाव दिए हैं जिन्हें नोट कर लिया गया है।

महाद्वीपीय यूरोप के देशों में समुद्रतटीय विहार में बढ़ती हुई रुचि को देखते हुए कोवालम के बारे में की गयी श्री सियर्सन की टिप्पणी सही प्रतीत नहीं होती । श्रीलंका, मालदीव जैसे पड़ौसी देशों के समुद्रतटीय विहार-स्थलों की यात्रा करने वाले यात्रियों की बढ़ती हुई संख्या से भी इस तथ्य की पुष्टि होती है ।

Take over of Textile Mills in Kerala

870. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:
SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL AVIATION AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has urged the National Textile Corporation to take over four textile mills in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since National Textile Corporation has been already overburdened with an onerous responsibility of managing 105 sick cotton textile mills at present, the Central Government does no favour take-over of more sick or close textile mills for management by the National Textile Corporation. However, if any concerned State Government is prepared to take over sick unit or units under its management, the Central Government would like to render all possible cooperations, whenever such proposals are found viable.

Misuse of Import Licences by Edible Oil Importers

871. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:
SHRI UGGRASEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the edible oil importers are selling the goods purchased against import licenses issued by Government back to their overseas suppliers making huge profits; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) : (i) Cases of 6 parties have been referred to the Directorate of Enforcement, Ministry of Finance, for taking action under the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act.

(ii) Cases of 13 parties have been referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation for detailed enquiries and appropriate action.

(iii) Action under the Import Trade Control, Regulations has been initiated against 2143 licensees. This figure includes 13 parties against whom there is some *prima facie* case of malpractices and also those who have not cooperated with the authorities in furnishing the necessary information about the utilisation of licenses.

Rise in the Prices of Edible Oils and Oilseeds

872. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of edible oils and oilseeds are soaring in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps Government intend to take to bring down these prices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Yes, Sir. There has been an upward trend in the prices of edible oils and oilseeds in the country.

The rise in prices is due in the main to shortfall in the production of groundnut and mustard crops in 1976-77. To check rise in prices of edible oils and oilseeds, the Government have taken the following measures;

(i) Imported rapeseed oil is being allotted to State Governments on demand for direct consumption for retailing through the public distribution system at reasonable price.

(ii) Duty free import of certain types of edible oils under the free licensing system by private trade has been allowed for direct human consumption.

(iii) The compulsory usage of cheaper imported oil for vanaspati manufacture has been increased from 10 per cent to 75 per cent progressively over a period of time and these oils are being supplied to the vanaspati industry through imports by the State Trading Corporation of India. The usage of groundnut oil in vanaspati stands prohibited.

(iv) The State Governments have been advised to remove all restrictions on the inter-State movement of edible oil and oilseeds.

(v) The export of HPS groundnut has been stopped.

(vi) Margins for advances of credit by banks against stocks of various oilseeds and oils have been tightened.

Conversion of Public Sector Industries into Corporations

873. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to convert all the Public Sector industries in the country into Corporations; and

(b) if so, the objectives and main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the conversion of Central public enterprises registered under the Companies Act into Statutory Corporations. No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) does not arise.

Public Distribution System

874. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the list of articles that are distributed through the public distribution system; and

(b) whether the public distribution system is proposed to be extended to cover the weaker sections in the rural areas also?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Wheat, rice, levy sugar and controlled cloth are distributed through fair price shops/ration shops in all States and Union Territories. In certain States, limited quantities of other essential commodities like milo/coarse grains, edible oils, kerosene oil and soft coke are being distributed through the public distribution system.

(b) Strengthening of the Public distribution system to cover, especially the weaker section of the community both in the rural and urban areas in the country is under consideration of Government.

Proposal to end Controlled Cloth Production and Export Obligation of Textile Mills

875. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to end the controlled cloth production and export obligation of the textile mills; and

(b) if so, salient features and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rise in Commodities Prices

876. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY:
SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the rise in prices of all the commodities in the country;

(b) if so, what concrete steps Government intend to take to arrest the rise in prices;

(c) whether the money supply and inflationary affects in the economy are also responsible for this spurt in prices; and

(d) if so. how far these factors have been curbed in our economy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Wholesale Price Index (1970-71=100) shows a rise of 10.1 per cent over the year ended May 28, 1977 and the Consumer Price Index (1960=100) of 8.3 per cent between April 1976 and April 1977. A large part of the rise in prices during the past year is accounted for by the sharp rise in the prices of a selected number of commodities.

(b) Government keeps a constant watch on the situation and action has been taken to moderate the price rise through (i) the augmentation of domestic availability by means of imports (e.g. edible oils, cotton and artificial fibres) or by placing restrictions on exports (e.g. potatoes, onions and tea), (ii) larger releases from Government stocks (e.g. foodgrains and sugar), and (iii) reduction of demand by changing compulsory usage regulations (e.g. 75 per cent use of imported oil in vanaspati manufacture and 10 per cent use of artificial fibres in the manufacture of cloth). Government will continue these measures as necessary. It also intends to strengthen the public distribution system.

(c) and (d). It is true that the expansion in money supply has broadly affected the level of prices. Government has sought to curb the inflationary impact of this by following a stringent credit policy. Restrictions have been placed on lending by banks against sensitive commodities to prevent speculative stock holding; expansion of credit by banks has been made difficult by impounding a part of their incremental deposit resources, by increasing the statutory cash reserve ratio and by making refinancing of bank lending by the Reserve Bank more restrictive.

Memorandum from Delhi Vegetable Oil Trade Association

877. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Vegetable Oil Trade Association has submitted a memorandum to deal with the present edible oil crisis in the country; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government had already taken action on the lines indicated in some of the suggestions made by the Association. The other suggestions will be given due consideration in so far as they are consistent with the overall aim of the Government of making edible oil available to the consumers at reasonable prices.

Tourist Homes in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

878. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:—

(a) how many Government tourist homes are there in Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) what is the occupancy ratio of the tourist homes as also the break-up of the kind of occupants *i.e.* whether public or private for the year 1976-77?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) There is one tourist home with 24 beds at Port Blair built by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration.

(b) In 1976 the occupancy was 70 per cent of which about 40 per cent was by private parties.

Steps to Check Smuggling and Economic Offences

879. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government for making a review of its anti-smuggling measures to evolve a new and effective strategy to check smuggling activities and other economic offences in the country;

(b) whether some of the smugglers have been released after the lifting of emergency and if so, their number, State-wise; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to intercept the smugglers' vessels and not allow them to indulge in anti-social activities?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Anti-smuggling measures of the Government are under constant review depending upon the trends in smuggling, changes in the *modus operandi* adopted by the smugglers and other economic offenders and shift in the vulnerability of the areas susceptible to their activities.

(b) Yes Sir, 2185 smugglers including foreign exchange racketeers were released after the lifting of Emergency till 4th June, 1977 and their number State-wise is furnished in the statement enclosed.

(c) Patrolling of the vulnerable areas on the sea coast to intercept smugglers vessels by the Customs carfts has been intensified. A wireless communication system has also been set up on the west coast and Tamil Nadu coast to enable quick communication between the preventive agencies and help interception of smugglers vessels. More numbers of Customs patrol craft are being put into service and the system of collection of intelligence is being strengthened.

Statement

State-wise break-up of the persons released is as under

S. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of persons released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37
2.	Assam	62
3.	Bihar	104
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2
5.	Delhi	47
6.	Goa, Daman & Diu	34
7.	Gujarat	202
8.	Haryana	2
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	10
10.	Karnataka	99
11.	Kerala	102
12.	Madhya Pradesh	13
13.	Maharashtra	622
14.	Manipur	11
15.	Meghalaya	5
16.	Orissa	3
17.	Pondicherry	4
18.	Punjab	69
19.	Rajasthan	13
20.	Tripura	43
21.	Tamil Nadu	261
22.	Uttar Pradesh	151
23.	West Bengal	125
24.	Central Government	164
	TOTAL	2185

Unsuitable Airports for Airbus Flights

880. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are certain airports in the country which are not ready for the airbus flights and if so, the particulars thereof; and

(b) the measures Government propose to take to develop them for airbus flights?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). Airbus services are at present being operated to Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Bangalore airports. Indian Airlines have plans to operate airbus services to Gauhati Dabolim (Goa) and Srinagar. Development works at these three aerodromes are already in progress to make them suitable for airbus operations.

Scheme for Distributing Edible Oil on No-Profit-No-Loss Basis

881. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Edible Oil Dealers have worked out a scheme for distributing edible oil on a no-profit-no-loss basis; and

(b) if so, the main features of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An association of exporters and importers of edible oils has formulated a scheme for the distribution of imported edible oil in the city of Bombay at the rate of 100 tonnes a day, through the agency of the State Civil Supplies Organisation, at an end retail price of Rs. 8.50 a kg. The scheme will be in operation till the end of September, 1977.

Customs Duty Claim against Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company

882. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the customs duty claim for Rs. 90 lakhs against the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company, pending since 1972-73, was suddenly dropped on 19-3-77 under instructions from erstwhile Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi through the then Revenue Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) action being taken now thereon; and

(d) whether in Feb. 1977 concessions worth Rs. 10 crores have been given to Cigarette industry by the erstwhile Prime Minister by way of assessing excise at prices charged by primary dealers and exemptions to card board containers and refund of pending claims?

THE MINISTER OF FINACNE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Madras Custom House had raised a claim for about Rs. 90 lakhs against the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company. The Company's representation against the claim was examined in the Department of Revenue and was finally disposed of on 19-3-1977 by issue of an exemption order after examination by the Department and

after obtaining the orders of the then Minister for Revenue and Banking. The Department's file does not show that there were any instructions from the then Prime Minister.

(b) The facts of the case are that the Madras Custom House had asked the ILTDC in October 1972 to show cause why customs duty amounting to Rs. 90.77 lakhs should not be recovered from it on a consignment of unmanufactured Indian tobacco re-imported by the Company in July, 1972 at Madras. This claim was disputed by the Company, but in May, 1975, the Madras Custom House confirmed the demand. The Company preferred an appeal against this demand in August, 1975 which was rejected in May 1976. The Company filed a revision application which was also rejected in October, 1976.

The Company then represented the matter to the then Minister of Revenue and Banking in October, 1976. In this representation, the Company again pointed out that it had paid the central excise duty when the re-imported consignment was cleared for manufacture of cigarettes. While considering this representation, it was noted that the Madras Custom House should not have released the re-imported consignment without having charged the customs duty equal to the central excise duty leviable thereon as required by Law. The re-imported consignment had been taken into excise bond and cleared for use in the manufacture of cigarettes. On the basis of the use to which the re-imported consignment was put, the correct customs duty equal to central excise duty leviable thereon should have been Rs. 11.4 lakhs @ Rs. 5 per kg. The Madras Custom House had, however, erroneously raised a demand for customs duty at the highest rate of central excise duty of Rs. 40 per kg. applicable to tobacco used in the manufacture of smoking mixtures.

At the stage of consideration of the representation of the Company, these facts were taken in account. As the Company had paid the central excise duty leviable on tobacco used in the manufacture of cigarettes, though after clearance, and the recovery of customs duty would have had the effect of recovering duty twice over, and also because this would have acted as an inhibiting factor on exports, it was decided by the Government at the level of the Minister on 19th March, 1977 that the Company be exempted from payment of cutoms duty equal to the central excise duty.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, the question does not arise.

(d) No such concessions were given specifically to the cigarette industry in February, 1977 or around that time. Instructions interpreting the provisions of Central Excise Law relating to valuation of all types of exciseable goods have been issued from time to time in consultation with the Ministry of Law. These instructions cover among other things the question as to what type of packing should be included for purposes of determining assessable value and the circumstances in which dealers, stockists, etc. should be treated as "related persons". Apart from such interpretative instructions of general nature covering all commodities, the only specific instructions in regard to cigarette industry were issued in May, 1976 on the question whether the cost of corrugated fibre board containers should be included for determining the assessable value of cigarettes. These instructions were based on the general instructions issued earlier in respect of all excisable goods, according to which the cost of additional packing which is distinct from the packing in which or on which the excisable goods are wrapped, contained or wound cannot be included in the assessable value of the excisable goods. It is possible

that as a result of the instructions issued interpreting the law regarding valuation, the cigarette industry may also have derived some benefit, in common with other industries. It is not possible to quantify the precise extent of the benefit.

Amount accrued on account of Compulsory Deposit Scheme

885. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) amount accrued on account of Compulsory Deposit Scheme out of payments made by employees and workers; and

(b) amount accrued on account of Compulsory Deposit Scheme out of payment made by employers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The gross amount of compulsory deposits made by employees of Central and State Governments, local authorities and of private and public sector units under the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Act, 1974 upto 3rd June, 1977, was Rs. 1764.68 crores.

(b) Employers do not make any payment under Compulsory Deposit Scheme; they only remit to the nominated authorities under the Act the amounts deducted towards compulsory deposits from the emoluments disbursed to their employees.

Validity of L.I.C. (Modification and Settlement) Act, 1976

886. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India LIC Employees Federation has challenged the validity of the LIC of India (Modification and Settlement) Act, 1976 in the Supreme Court;

(b) whether the Court after hearing both sides, suggested that the parties might negotiate and come to settlement;

(c) whether Government have come to any settlement with the LIC employees as suggested by the Court;

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). No settlement has been reached so far. The views of the Government have already been conveyed to the Supreme Court.

Visit of the Chairman of the Coffee Board to Kerala

887. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the Coffee Board had recently visited Wynad in Kerala and had discussions with coffee-growers and others on the various problems of coffee cultivation, marketing and other matters;

(b) if so, the results of his visit;

(c) whether steps have already been taken to fulfil the various promises and assurances he had made in various conferences; and

(d) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):

(a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Result of the discussions are summarised, as under:—

(1) A comprehensive approach involving chemical and biological methods for controlling mealy bug infestation in the coffee plantations, provision of necessary financial assistance to the growers for the purchase of appropriate inputs and adoption of an area approach in solving the problems has been evolved.

(2) Steps have been taken to acquire necessary area for starting a Robusta Research Station in Wynad for evolving a package of practices necessary for increasing the productivity of Robusta Coffee in Wynad.

(3) A Developmental Plan for providing need-based credit for every small grower having coffee registration certificate has been worked out. Necessary finances from the Plan Funds have been allocated for this purpose.

(4) Coffee Board has posted Special Staff to identify all registered estates, collect applications for registration and for rendering assistance in getting Registration Certificates from the Revenue Authorities of the Government of Kerala.

(5) Rationalising the levy of transport charges by the collection depots and opening more collection depots in the interior areas is being examined by the Board.

(c) Yes, please. Action has already been initiated to implement the decisions taken on the above matters.

(d) 1. Steps have been taken to map the areas infested with mealybug in Wynad and to start integrated control measures in these areas. Special staff have already been posted to attend to this.

2. Proposal for starting Regional Robusta Research Station have been cleared by the Government of India and necessary funds have been provided for this purpose. Planting of some of the area acquired for the Research Station would be carried out this year for experiemental purposes. Posting of necessary scientific staff for the Station is being attended to.

3. Development activities of the Board have been geared to provide need-based credit to the small growers of coffee. Liberalisation of some of the Developmental Loan procedures for granting loan assistance will be done to make available these loans to most of the growers having coffee registration certificates. Steps have already been taken to disburse loans to growers in their respective regions through decentralisation of developmental functions.

4. Applications from all the unregistered estates have been collected from the growers and filed with the revenue authorities for future action. Special staff has been posted for assisting growers in getting the registration certificates.

Rise in Big Prices of Tea

888. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) how Government propose to control the tea prices which are soaring and have gone up by more than 100 per cent since March, 1976; and

(b) whether his suggestions to tea industrialists to bring down tea prices at home by cutting down the exports have been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Internal prices of tea at auction centres started rising from January, 1977, and this trend continued till the first week of April. With a view to halt this trend, Government took prompt action by imposing an export duty on tea of Rs. 5/- per kg. and simultaneously withdrew the excise rebate available on export of bulk tea and drawback of duties on exports.

With a view to ensure that adequate quantities of tea are available for domestic consumption, tea producers have been asked to offer about 80 per cent of their produce at the auction. As a result of these steps the auction prices have registered a declining trend. Government is also in constant touch with major tea packers who have been persuaded to lower the prices of packed teas by about Rs. 2 per kg. w.e.f. 17-4-77.

Tea exports and internal prices are being kept under constant watch so as to ensure adequate availability for domestic consumption.

Vigorous efforts are also being made to augment tea production in the country, so as to meet the domestic and external demand.

नागर विमानन विभाग में कार्यरत विमान

889. **श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान :** क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय किस-किस श्रेणी के कितने-कितने विमान नागर विमानन विभाग में कार्यरत हैं ;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार वर्तमान विमानों की संख्या में वृद्धि करने का है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कितनी और कब तक ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) देश में विभिन्न हवाई अड्डों पर स्थापित दिकचालन उपकरणों / सुविधाओं के अनुसंशोधन (कैलीबेंशन) के लिए तथा राडार परिचालन के लिए विमान यातायात नियंत्रण अधिकारियों के प्रशिक्षण के लिए नागर विमानन विभाग फिलहाल दो डीसी-3 विमानों का परिचालन कर रहा है ।

(ख) और (ग). नागर विमानन के महानिदेशक ने विमान बेड़े की वृद्धि के लिए दो एचएस–748 विमान खरीदें है तथा इन विमानों के 1977 के अंत तक प्राप्त हो जान की आशा है ।

Excise Duty on Nylon Thread

890. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increase in the duty on Nylon thread used in the fishermen's nets has affected the fishing trade; and

(b) if so, whether Government have made any survey of the fishermen laid off in the fishing industry?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) There has been no increase in excise duty on nylon thread for over 2 years.

(b) Does not arise.

Credit facilities provided by Syndicate Bank to its clients

891. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Syndicate Bank has provided credit facilities to its clients viz., M/s. Karnataka Exports Ltd., M/s. Pushpaka Aviation Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Cyma Exports Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Nilhat Shipping Co. Ltd., Hirji Nensy & Co. and M/s Kasturbhai Lalbhai Seth without obtaining proper credit reports;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against concerned officials of the bank on their failure to observe the usual norms in making these advances?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Syndicate Bank has reported that it has provided credit facilities *after* obtaining credit reports and such other information as the bank considered necessary to the following firms:

M s. Karnataka Exports Ltd., M/s. Pushpaka Aviation Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Cyma Exports Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Nilhat Shipping Co. Pvt. Ltd., Hirji Nensy & Co. and M s. Kasturbhai Lalbhai Seth.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Raid at the Residence of Chairman and Managing Director of Syndicate Bank

892. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residence of Shri K. K. Pai, Chairman and Managing Director of the Syndicate Bank was raided by the C.B.I. in November/ December, 1976;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) whether any action was called for against the Chairman?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). Central Bureau of Investigation has reported that the residential premises of Shri K. K. Pai, Chairman and Managing Director of Syndicate Bank at Udipi and Manipal were searched by its officers on 15-10-1976, in the course of investigation of certain cases registered by Central Bureau of Investigation against the Chairman and a few others in connection with the bank guarantees given by the bank to a group of firms. The Central Bureau of Investigation has not yet concluded its investigation.

Mahila Dakshata Samiti

893. DR. BAPU KALDATE:

SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sponsored a "Mahila Dakshata Samiti" to fight price-rise:

(b) if so, the names of members of the Samiti; and

(c) whether Government propose to use official machinery to propagate Samiti's objectives?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The Government are, however, considering a proposal to constitute a Consumers' Council at the national level and similar bodies at the state level, in cooperation with the respective State Governments.

New formula of Dearness Allowance

894. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Government had promised to the people that a new formula of dearness allowance will be prepared, and

(b) if so, whether Government have now agreed that the present formula is correct and there is no need to revise it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration of Government to revise the dearness allowance formula recommended by the Third Pay Commission for the payment of dearness allowance to the Central Government employees.

(b) Does not arise.

तस्करी के सोने और अन्य वस्तुओं को जब्त किया जाना

895. **श्री आर० वी० स्वामीनाथन :**

श्री निहार लास्कर :

क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अप्रैल, 1977 में सीमा शुल्क अधिकारियों ने बम्बई तथा कलकत्ता में मुर्शिदाबाद में एक फ्लैट पर छापे मारे तथा अनधिकृत स्वर्ण और अन्य वस्तुएं जब्त की; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस मामले में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) राजस्व गुप्तचर्या निदेशालय के अधिकारियों ने 14 अप्रैल, 1977 को फ्लैट संख्या 506 ए, 'सी' ब्लाक, पांचवीं मंजिल, फारजेट स्ट्रीट, आनन्द नगर, बम्बई पर छापा मारा था और 12,24,000 रु० मूल्य के विदेशी मार्के के सोने की 180 छड़ें, जिनमें से प्रत्येक का भार 10 तोला था (अर्थात् कुल 1800 तोला सोना) पकड़ा। इसके साथ ही, 4,400 रुपये की भारतीय मुद्रा भी पकड़ी गयी थी। इसके अतिरिक्त, उक्त फ्लैट के बाहर एक व्यक्ति से विदेशी मार्के की, 1,36,000 रुपए मूल्य की सोने की 20 छड़ें जिनमें से प्रत्येक का भार 10 तोले था, (अर्थात् 200 तोला सोना) और 2,036 रुपए की भारतीय मुद्रा पकड़ी गई थीं। अब तक प्राप्त रिपोर्टों से ऐसा पता नहीं चलता है कि सीमा-शुल्क प्राधिकारियों द्वारा अप्रैल, 1977 में मुर्शिदाबाद में कोई तलाशी ली गई थी।

(ख) पकड़े गए माल और इसमें अन्तर्ग्रस्त व्यक्तियों के सम्बन्ध में कानून के अनुसार आवश्यक कार्यवाही की जा रही है।

Trade between India and U.S.A.

896. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government are taking steps to improve trade between India and U.S.A.;

(b) whether any delegation of the Indian Government had recently gone to U.S.A. in this regard;

(c) whether U.S.A. has not shown any keen interest in increasing trade with India; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The USA has been showing keen interest in increasing trade with India.

(d) Does not arise.

Loans given by Financial Institutions and Banks to Maruti Ltd

897. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of (1) Loans and (2) Guarantees given by the Government owned (a) public financial institutions and (b) Banks to the Maruti Limited and its sister-concerns:

(b) what were the loans and guarantees given by each institution and what was the security for such loans; and

(c) the amount of loss suffered by these institutions due to these transactions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). None of the long term public financial institutions has given any advances or loans to Maruti Group of Companies.

As regards financial assistance given by public sector banks to Maruti Group of Companies, in accordance with the practice and usage customary among bankers and also in conformity with the provisions of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, the State Bank of India Act, 1955 and the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, information relating to the individual constituents of these banks is not to be divulged. It is, therefore, not possible to furnish the information sought by the Hon'ble Member.

Government of India have constituted a Commission of Inquiry under section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, to enquire into the affairs of Maruti Group of Companies. The terms of reference of this Inquiry Commission, *inter-alia*, include all matters relating to the securing of accommodation, loans or other assistance from nationalised banks and other financial institutions by the Maruti concerns, including the eligibility of the said concerns to obtain the financial assistance sought for, the standard of care with which the applications were considered and the measure of conformity to the polices, practices, rules and directives for the time being in force in regard to grant of such assistance.

Donations given by National Rayon Corporation Ltd. Bombay

898. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Rayon Corporation Limited, Bombay has given donations amounting to over Rs. 20 lakhs to certain so-called Trusts and Charities during the period January to March, 1977;

(b) whether the Chairman of the National Rayon Corporation Ltd. is also the Director of Maruti Limited; and

(c) whether Government have investigated into these donations and if so, what are the findings?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE & BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) National Rayon Corporation Limited, Bombay has given donations amounting to Rs. 18.75 lakh during the period January to March, 1977.

(b) The Chairman of National Rayon Corporation Limited is no longer a Director of Maruti Limited.

(c) The accounting year of National Rayon Corporation Limited ends on 30th September. The accounts for the year ending 30th September, 1977 showing the above donations will come up for scrutiny in the course of the income-tax proceedings for the assessment year 1978-79. The return of income for the said assessment year will be due by 30th June, 1978.

Export of Edible Oil, Oil-Seeds and Oil Cakes

899. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total export of edible oil, oil-seeds and oil cakes during the period 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77;

(b) whether due to the export policy the prices of these items were high for domestic consumers; and

(c) the proposal of Government for the future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Exports of edible oils, oil-seeds and oil cakes during the period 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 (April—December) have been as follows:—

Qty. in '000 Tonnes
Value in Rs. Crores

	1974-75		1975-76		1976-77 (April-December)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1. Edible oils	0·62	0·57	1·21	0·96	4·26	2·63
2. Oil-seeds	63·61	28·47	159·26	67·65	101·11	39·56
3. Oil cakes	988·82	99·37	1110·91	88·69	1434·37	151·49

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The export of edible oils and oilseeds is now totally banned. The export of oilcakes is regulated to ensure adequate internal availability at reasonable prices.

Export of Eatables

900. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of (i) vegetables (ii) fruits (iii) eggs (iv) meat, and (v) fish exported during the years 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77;

(b) whether due to export of these items the prices of these items remained high for the consumers in India; and

(c) general policy of Government in regard to the export of eatables?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) The export figures are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The export of fruits, vegetables, eggs, and meat has been of very small quantities compared to production of each of the items. Fish exports are largely of shrimps which is a high cost item and therefore not an item of mass consumption in India. Domestic price levels of these items depend upon a number of factors.

(c) The export of eatables, when they are items of mass consumption or essential commodities, is allowed only after meeting domestic requirements and without adverse effect on domestic prices.

Statement

Item	Unit	1974-75		1975-76		1976-77 (April to December '76)	
	Quantity	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
	Value						
Vegetable	Tonnes	87645	10·34	152564	23·04	163456	23·30
	Rs. crores						
Fruits	Tonnes	10560	4·41	22808	8·77	21711	9·76
	Rs. crores						
Eggs	Hundred Numbers	5533	0·03	25303	0·06	37394	0·18
	Rs. crores						
Meat	Tonnes	5339	5·03	6188	10·27	35712	18·92
	Rs. crores						
Fish	Tonnes	38876	66·17	52338	126·56	43618	137·90
	Rs. crores						

तस्करी की गतिविधियां छोड़ देने की शपथ

901. **श्री मीठा लाल पटेल :**

श्री के० मालप्पा:

श्री बी० एम० सुधीरन :

श्री निहार लास्कर :

क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कुछ प्रमुख तस्करों ने सर्वोदय नेता श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण के सामने तस्करी गतिविधियां छोड़ देने की शपथ ली है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या कितनी है, और नाम क्या हैं ;

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ; और

(घ) देश में तस्करी की गतिविधियों पर इसका समग्र रूप में क्या प्रभाव पड़ा है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) तथा (ख). जी, हां। सरकार को प्राप्त हुई सूचना के अनुसार 30 अप्रैल, 1977 को बम्बई में 100 तस्करों ने श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण के समक्ष शपथ ली है कि वे तस्करी नहीं करेंगे और अन्य व्यक्तियों को इस प्रकार की गतिविधियां जारी रखने से मना करेंगे और रोकेंगे और सरकार की मदद करेंगे। इस प्रकार के प्रमुख व्यक्तियों में हाजी मस्तान मिर्जा, युसुफ अब्दुल्ला पटेल, राजावली हिरजी मेघानी, इब्राहीम मच्छीवाला, डोंगरी का देवीचन्द, वर्धराज मुनिस्वामी, ललित ठोलकिया, बाबू दूधवाला, यूसुफ सुपारीवाला, मजीद खान देशी (एहाद का) सैय्यद अहमद और सुकर नारायण बखिया शामिल हैं।

(ग) शपथ और सहयोग का प्रस्ताव, जैसा कि ऊपर बताया गया है, सही दिशा में उठाये गये कदम हैं।

(घ) तस्करी पर इस शपथ का समग्र प्रभाव इतनी जल्दी नहीं आंका जा सकता। लेकिन, मामले की समीक्षा की जा रही है।

विभिन्न मंत्रालयों में मितव्ययिता लाने हेतु किये गये उपाय

902. **श्री मीठा लाल पटेल :** क्या **वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा विभिन्न मंत्रालयों में मितव्ययिता लाने हेतु किये गये उपायों के परिणामस्वरूप मंत्रालयों न अपने खर्चे में कोई मितव्ययिता बरती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल): (क) और (ख). इस विषय का सम्बन्ध वित्त मंत्रालय से है। सम्भवतः माननीय सदस्य का आशय वित्त मंत्रालय द्वारा जारी किये गये अनुदेशों से है। वित्त सचिव के 13-5-77 के अर्द्ध सरकारी पत्र और 27-5-77 के कार्यालय ज्ञापन की प्रतिलिपियां सभा पटल पर रखी गई हैं। [**न्यालय में रखा गया। दखिए संख्या एल०टी० 386/77**] इन अनुदेशों की मुख्य-मुख्य बातें निम्न प्रकार से हैं :—

मंत्रालयों और विभागों से अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे सरकारी खर्चे में किफायत करने के लिए समीक्षा करें। यह समीक्षा उनके मौजूदा कार्यों, प्रणालियों और

कार्यविधियों की छानबीन करके की जाएगी। उनसे यह भी अनुरोध किया गया है कि जो भी आयोग और समितियां स्थापित की गई हैं और जो इस समय विद्यमान हैं उन सभी के बारे में यह देखने के लिए विस्तृत जांच की जाये कि क्या उनसे कोई ऐसा महत्वपूर्ण उपयोगी प्रयोजन सिद्ध हो रहा है जो उनका आगे बने रहना न्यायोचित ठहराता हो । मौजूदा कानूनों की भी इस दृष्टि से समीक्षा की जानी है कि क्या वे अनावश्यक हो गए और उनके प्रशासन के लिए मूलतः भर्ती किये गये कर्मचारियों को वापस किया जा सकता है । किफायत सम्बन्धी अन्य उपायों में नए पदों के बनाए जाने पर और खाली पदों के भरे जाने पर रोक/प्रतिबन्ध कार्यालय खर्चे में कड़ी किफायत, समयोपरि अदायगियों कटौती, टेलीफोनों, बिजली की खपत आदि से सम्बन्धित व्यय पर प्रतिबन्ध आते हैं ।

केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों के लिए बीमा योजना

903. **श्री मीठा लाल पटेल :**

श्री के० मालप्पा :

क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों के लिए हाल में एक बीमा योजना आरम्भ की है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस योजना की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच०एम० पटेल) : (क) और (ख). एक विवरण-पत्र संलग्न है ।

विवरण

केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों के लिए बीमा योजना

केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारी बीमा योजना को 1-7-1977 से लागू करने का विचार है । यह योजना नियमित संस्थापनों में सभी केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों (कार्यप्रभारित कर्मचारियों सहित) पर लागू होगी । किन्तु यह योजना ठेके पर काम करने वाले कर्मचरियों, राज्य सरकारों, सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों अथवा अन्य स्वायत्त संगठनों में प्रतिनियुक्ति पर आये व्यक्तियों, विदेशों में भारतीय मिशनों में स्थानीय तौर पर भर्ती किये गये कर्मचारियों, नैमित्तिक मजदूरों और अंशकालिक कर्मचारियों पर लागू नहीं होगी ।

2. इस योजना के अन्तर्गत अंशदान की दरें और लाभ सरकारी कर्मचारियों के योजना के अधीन आने की आयु पर निर्भर करते हैं । ये तीन समूहों में बंटे हैं :—

समूह I

जो कर्मचारी 28 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने से पहले इस योजना के अधीन आते हैं, वे इस समूह में शामिल किये जायेंगे । उन्हें 28 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने तक (अर्थात् 28 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने के महीने से पूर्ववर्ती महीने के अन्त तक) प्रति माह 50 पैसे का एक समान अंशदान करना होगा । इस अवधि के दौरान सरकारी कर्मचारी की सेवा में रहते हुए मृत्यु होने के मामले में उसके द्वारा नामित व्यक्तियों को 5000 — रु० की एक मुश्त राशि की अदायगी की जाएगी । यदि कोई कर्मचारी 28 वर्ष की आयु तक पहुचने से पहले नौकरी छोड़ देता है अथवा उस आयु तक पहुंचने से पहले नौकरी छोड़ने के पश्चात् उसकी मृत्यु हो जाती है, तो इस योजना के अन्तर्गत कोई भी आवधिक लाभ देय नहीं होंगे । 28 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त कर लेने पर ये कर्मचारी समूह III के अन्तर्गत आ जायेंगे ।

समूह-II

इस समूह मे 28 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त कर लेने के पश्चात् समूह I के कर्मचारी और 28 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने वाले महीने में इस योजना के अन्तर्गत आने वाले कर्मचारी शामिल होंगे । इन कर्मचारियों को 28 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने के महीने से लेकर और 58 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने के महीने से पूर्ववर्ती महीने तक प्रतिमाह 5/- रुपए एक समान अंशदान करना होगा । 58 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त कर लेने पर सरकारी कर्मचारी को 5000/- रु० की अदायगी की जाएगी । सेवा मे रहते हुए मृत्यु होने पर सरकारी कर्मचारी द्वारा नामित व्यक्तियों को 5,000 रुपए की एक मुश्त अदायगी की जाएगी ।

28 वर्ष की आयु के पश्चात् किन्तु 31 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने से पहले इस योजना के अन्तर्गत आने वाला कोई कर्मचारी सामान्यत: समूह III के अधीन आयेगा । किन्तु ऐसे कर्मचारी को समूह II के अन्तर्गत आने का विकल्प होगा बशर्ते कि वह 28 वर्ष की अवस्था प्राप्त करने के महीने और वर्ष से 5 रुपए प्रतिमाह की दर पर अंशदानों की बकाया की अदायगी कर दे ।

समूह-III

इस समूह में सभी अन्य कर्मचारी शामिल किये जायेंगे ।

अंशदान की दर और मृत्यु पर देय लाभ वही होगा जो समूह II के अन्तर्गत आने वाले कर्मचारियों पर लागू हैं । किन्तु इस समूह के अन्तर्गत आने वाले कर्मचारियों के मामले मे 58 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त करने पर उपलब्ध लाभ निम्न प्रकार से होंगे :-

योजना में शामिल होने की तारीख को आयु	नकद देय राशि
29 से 34	योजना मे शामिल होने की आयु से लेकर अदा किये गये कुल अंशदानों का 1.75 गुणा
35 से 44	योजना में शामिल होने की आयु से लेकर अदा किये गए कुल अंशदानों का 1.25 गुणा
45 से 57	योजना मे शामिल होने की आयु से अदा किये गये कुल अंशदान ।

3. 58 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त होने पर सरकारी कर्मचारी से कोई अंशदान वसूली योग्य नहीं होंगे । तदनुसार यह बीमा केवल 58 वर्ष की आयु तक उपलब्ध होगा न कि उसके बाद ।

4. ऊपर समूह II और III के अन्तर्गत आने वाले कर्मचारियों को 58 वर्ष की आयु से पहले किसी भी कारण से नौकरी छोड़ने अथवा सेवा निवृत्त होने पर घटी हुई राशि का लाभ दिया जाएगा।

बेरोजगार विमानचालक

904. **श्री मीठा लाल पटेल :**
श्री दीनेन भट्टाचार्य :

क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय देश में बेरोजगार विमान चालकों की संख्या कितनी है ;

(ख) क्या इन बेरोजगार विमान चालकों ने सरकार मे प्रार्थना की है कि उन्हें नौकरी दी जाये और यदि हां, तो सरकार की इस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) देश में इस समय लगभग 200 वाणिज्यिक विमान चालक बेरोजगार है ।

(ख) जी, हां । इन विमानचालकों के लिए रोजगार के अवसर प्रदान करने की दृष्टि से, इंडियन एयरलाइन्स, एयर इंडिया, भारत अंतरराष्ट्रीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण तथा कृषि विमानन निदेशालय को सुझाव दिया गया है कि वे, जहां कहीं संभव हो, इन बेरोजगार वाणिज्यिक विमानचालकों को खपाने का प्रयत्न करें । इसके अतिरिक्त, नागर विमानन विभाग में सहायक विमानक्षेत्र अधिकारी के पद की सीधी भर्ती के नियमों में संशोधन कर के वाणिज्यिक विमानचालक लाइसेंस को एक स्वीकार्य अर्हता (क्वालीफीकेशन) के रूप में सम्मिलित कर लिया गया है ।

Foreign Aid from Oil Rich Countries

905. SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of aid received from the oil rich countries of the Middle East during the last three years;

(b) whether Government propose to secure increase in the flow of such aid; and

(c) if so, the salient features of such a proposal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). An assistance of Rs. 788 crores has been received from OPEC countries in the last three years. Proposals relating to similar assistance for future have not been finalised.

Autonomous Status of Reserve Bank of India

906. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make the Reserve Bank of India 'truly autonomous'; and

(b) if so, Government's proposal in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Reserve Bank of India is a separate statutory and autonomous institution which functions within the framework of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The superintendence of its affairs is vested in the Governor and the Board of Directors nominated by the Central Government. As the country's principal monetary and credit authority, the Bank functions with due regard to Government's policies.

(b) Does not arise.

Trade with China

907. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI DURGA CHAND:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state whether Government have recently explored the possibilities for the resumption of trade with People's Republic of China?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): In order to explore the possibitities of trade with China a representative each of S.T.C., the Association of Indian Engineering Industry and the Basic Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council attended the Canton Trade Fair in April-May 1977. The response of the Chinese trade organiations was positive. The beginning made at the Fair to realise further the potential for mutually beneficial trade between the two countries is being persued.

Departmental Examination by Class IV Employees of Income Tax Department

908. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a considerable number of class IV employees of Income Tax Department have passed Departmental Examination for promotion;

(b) if so, their number;

(c) the opportunities for promotion provided for them;

(d) how many of them have so far actually been promoted; and

(e) whether they are required to appear for departmental examination each year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Voluntary Disclosures Scheme

909. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case-study has been undertaken by the Government about the voluntary disclosures scheme; and

(b) if so, the principal conclusions drawn out of such studies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Two studies have been made with respect to declarations of voluntary disclosed income made under section 3(1) of the Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Act, 1976. The nature of these studies and the principal conclusions drawn therefrom are as follows:

(i) A sample study of the declarations made in the charges of Commissioners of Income-tax, Delhi-V and Delhi (Central) as to the nature of the assets in which the voluntarily disclosed income is held:—

In the declarations made in Delhi-V charge, cash, jewellery, bullion and silverware etc. together account for nearly 57 per cent of the assets in which the disclosed income is held. On the other hand, in Delhi (Central) charge, these assets represent less than 30 per cent of the income disclosed, most of the balance being in the form of deposits with other parties/stocks etc.

(ii) A status-wise and income-wise analysis of the declarations made in all Commissioners' charges:—

(i) The five major charges of Bombay, West Bengal, Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat account for 47.6 per cent of the declarations, 53.6 per cent of the amount declared and 55.3 per cent of the tax payable.

(ii) The bulk of the declarations (nearly 3/4th) is in the lowest income-range upto Rs. 25,000/-. However, such declarations account for less than half the total amount of income disclosed and only about one-third of the total tax-payable.

(iii) Declarations involving amounts over Rs. 1 lakh constitute only 1.4 per cent of the total number of declarations but account for 15.8 per cent of the amount of income disclosed and 26.8 per cent of the tax payable.

(iv) Nearly half the declarations come from persons not hither. to assessed. However, their contribution to the amount of income disclosed is only 39.3 per cent and to tax payable about 34.7 per cent.

(v) About 50 per cent of the declaration not hitherto assessed consist of ladies and minors. Their proporation is the higest in the lowest income range, viz., upto Rs. 25,000/-.

Lock-out declared by Premchand Jute Mill in West Bengal

910. DR. SARADISH ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the lock-out declared by Premchand Jute Mill in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the total number of workers affected by the lock-out; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for reopening the mill?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):

(a) to (c): Phemchand Jute Mills have been under lock-out since 6th April, 1977. The total number of workers affected by the lock-out is about 3100.

With a view to reopening the mill, a tripartite meeting was convened by Government of West Bengal on 12th May, 1977 followed by a bipartite meeting on 14th May, 1977. The matter is being persued by the concerned authorities.

Export Drive

911. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM:
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy of Government for using export as a strategy for accelerating domestic production;

(b) whether export drive has resulted in non-availability of essential commodities to consumers at reasonable rates; and

(c) if so, the standards proposed to be followed for determining optimal limits for export keeping in view needs of domestic consumers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) The Government has no intention of adopting a strategy of export led growth. In selected products which have unutilised installed capacity or which have a high elasticity of supply, exports may lead to acceleration of domestic production.

(b) and (c). Export demand is one of the factors along with domestic demand, money supply and the total availability of an item which determines prices in the domestic market. The Government is aware that the export drive by the earlier Government has adversely affected the availability of certain essential commodities. The Government has therefore taken prompt measures and has either stopped or staggered their exports. Exports of products required for essential mass consumption are now regulated and constant review is kept so that the interests of domestic consumers are safeguarded.

Rise in the Prices of Vegetables

912. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that vegetable prices are going up due to inordinate export of raw vegetables including onions and potatoes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Export of raw vegetables including potatoes and onions has not been inordinate as the total quantity exported during 1975-76 and April—December 1976 have been 1.50 lakh tonnes and 1.63 lakh tonnes respectively against an estimated production of 216 lakh tonnes. Exports of vegetables have been regulated with a view to ensure that the domestic supply and prices of these items are not adversely affected. Export of onions and potatoes has been stopped for the present.

Import of Cotton

913. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India is finding demand for imported cotton rather poor;

(b) if so, whether textile mills are being given further price preference in imported cotton; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider import of cotton and help local farmers fetch a better price?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government would always like to help the local farmers. The present imports had to be allowed in view of the shortage of cotton. The moment such shortage is over, to that extent, imports from outside will not be allowed.

Export of cotton garments to U.S.A. and U.S.S.R.

914. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several deals for export of cotton garments to U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. have been made recently;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) whether West European Governments are putting quota restrictions in the import of Indian garments to their countries; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are taking to end these quota restrictions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Contracts for export of garments are concluded by the trade with overseas importers. It is understood that the trade has concluded several contracts for export of garments to USA and USSR during recent months. The features of the deals vary from case to case.

(c) E.E.C., Sweden and Narway have imposed quota restrictions on import of certain varieties of garments from India.

(d) With Norway, India has concluded an agreement envisaging quota restriction on India's export of shirts and blouses. In the case of Sweden and E.E.C., certain restrictions have been imposed unilaterally without our consent. Government have been making efforts to end these restrictions and the discussions are in progress.

Airport at Ahmedabad

915. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ahmedabad is to have an international airport;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) whether this would be so constructed as to accommodate wide-bodied aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

अनिवार्य जमा योजना के अन्तर्गत काटी गई धनराशि पर ब्याज की दर

916. **श्री रामानन्द तिवारी** : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अनिवार्य जमा योजना के अन्तर्गत संचित धनराशि को केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों की भविष्य निधि में जमा किया जा रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस धनराशि पर ब्याज किस दर से दिया जाएगा ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) कर्मचारियों को जुलाई, 1977 में देय अतिरिक्त उपलब्धियां (अनिवार्य निक्षेप) अधिनियम, 1974 के अन्तर्गत अतिरिक्त मंहगाई भत्ते की उनकी जमा रकमों की दूसरी किस्त इन कर्मचारियों के भविष्य निधि खातों में जमा कर दी जाएगी ।

(ख) इस अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत जमा कराई गई रकमों पर अधिकतम बैंक जमा दर से 2.5 प्रतिशत अधिक दर पर साधारण ब्याज मिलता है (इस समय ब्याज की दर 12.5 प्रतिशत वार्षिक है) । जब ऊपर बताई गई दूसरी किस्त की जुलाई, 1977 में वापसी की जाएगी तब जमा रकमों पर 12.5 प्रतिशत वार्षिक की दर से ब्याज की अदायगी भी कर दी जाएगी । जब यह रकम कर्मचारी के भविष्य निधि खाते में जमा कर दी जाएगी तब इस पर संबंधित भविष्य निधि स्कीम पर लागू दर के हिसाब से ब्याज मिलेगा ।

Ban on export of vegetables and meat to Gulf Countries

917. SHRI RAMANAND TIWARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been urged to ban the export of vegetables, meat and other products to Gulf Countries; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). The export policy of essential commodities and articles of mass consumption including vegetables and meat is regulated with a view to ensure that the domestic supply and prices of these items are not adversely affected.

Purchasing centres of Cotton Corporation of India

918. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of purchasing centres of the Cotton Corporation of India functioning at present, State-wise;

(b) whether some new purchasing centres have also been opened during 1976-77;

(c) if so, the particulars thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the facilities provided for the farmers by Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) 88 purchasing centres of the Cotton Corporation of India are functioning at present, State-wise break-up of which is as under:—

1. Andhra Pradesh	9
2. Gujarat	15
3. Haryana	6
4. Karnataka	10
5. Madhya Pradesh	10
6. Punjab	19
7. Rajasthan	16
8. Tamil Nadu	3
	88

(b) Yes, Sir. 44 New Centres have been opened during 1976-77.

(c) State-wise details of new Centres opened during 1976-77 are as under:—

1. *Andhra Pradesh*
   - Adoni
   - Adilabad
   - Bhainsa
   - Chilkarupet
   - Ganapavaram
2. *Gujarat*
   - Botad
   - Kapadvanj
   - Dabhoi
   - Palej
   - Miyagam
   - Kadi
   - Limbdi
   - Anjar
3. *Karnataka*
   - Bijapur
   - Gokak
   - Bellary
   - Yadgiri
4. *Madhya Pradesh*
   - Ujjain
   - Dhamnod
   - Khargone
   - Anjad
   - Jaora
   - Indore
5. *Punjab*
   - Bhatinda
   - Goniana
   - Jaitu
   - Tappa
   - Bariwala
   - Jagron
   - Sardulgarh
   - Maur
   - Mansa
   - Bhuchu
   - Bernala
   - Rampurphul
6. *Rajasthan*
   - Bijaynagar
   - Padampur
   - Fatehnagar
   - Gulabpura
   - Bhilwara
   - Banswara
   - Songaria
   - Sri Bijaynagar
7. *Tamil Nadu*
   - Pollachi.

(d) The Corporation enters the market as a purchaser in the regulated markets and participates in auctions and tenders for sale of kapas. The presence of the Corporation helps the

cotton growers who are otherwise likely to be exploited by rigging against the growers. Besides lending support the growers insist on the presence of the Corporation, as the Corporation makes prompt payment for all purchases effected in the market. The facility of prompt payment attracts the growers to the purchase centres of the Corporation in all the States.

Low-Interest Loan Scheme

919. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently revised the Low-Interest Loan Scheme and extended it to the entire country; and

(c) if so, the salient features regarding the new guidelines announced in this regard by the Department of Revenue and Banking?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the revised guidelines on Differential Rate of Interest Scheme issued by the Government on 24th May, 1977 is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

1. *Scope and Coverage*

1.1. The Scheme will be operative in the entire country.

1.2. *Target*: Banks should lend under the scheme minimum of ½ of 1 per cent of their aggregate advances as at the end of previous year.

1.3. In order to ensure that the weaker sections in the rural areas derive maximum benefit under the scheme and bulk of the advances are not preempted by urban/metropolitan areas, the banks operating the scheme will ensure that *not less than* 2/3rd of their advances under this scheme are routed through their rural and semi-urban branches. Correspondingly *not more than* 1/3rd of their credit under the scheme may go from their urban and metropolitan branches.

1.4. To ensure that persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes get their due share of benefits under the scheme *not less than* 1/3rd of the bank credit under the scheme should flow to the eligible borrowers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

2. *Operational Agencies*

2.1. *Public Sector Banks*: The scheme of Differential Rate of Interest will be operated by all the public sector banks.

2.2. *Non-nationalised Banks*: Non-nationalised banks having lead responsibilities will operate the scheme at least in their lead districts. Other non-nationalised banks may also implement the scheme on a voluntary basis.

2.3. *Regional Rural Banks*: Under the scheme of Regional Rural Banks, credit is to be made available to the borrowers at the same rates as the cooperatives. These banks are, therefore, not permitted to advance credit at concessional rates of interest. To ensure that the persons served by these banks can also avail themselves of the benefits of the Scheme, the sponsoring banks may lend through Regional Rural Banks on an agency basis. Thus, eligible borrowers will be able to obtain loans at the rate of 4 per cent per annum in the areas served by the Regional Rural Banks.

3. *Eligibility Criteria*: The categories of persons enumerated in para 4 will be eligible to the benefits of the scheme even if they have no tangible security of any worth to offer or, can not produce a security/guarantee of a well to do party, provided they satisfy the criteria laid down below:

3.1. Family income of the borrower from all sources does not exceed Rs. 3,000/- per annum in urban or semi-urban areas or Rs. 2,000/- per annum in rural areas.

3.2. He does not own any land or the size of his holding does not exceed one acre in the case of irrigated land and 2.5 acres in the case of un-irrigated land.

3.3. Members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are eligible for the loan irrespective of their land holdings, provided they satisfy the other criteria.

3.4. He can be helped to rise above his present economic level through a productive endeavour with assistance from banks, the productive endeavour being such as would become economically viable within a period of, say, 3 years.

3.5. He does not incur liability to two sources of finance at the same time.

3.6. He works largely on his own and with such help as other members of his family or same joint partners may give to him and does not employ paid employees on a regular basis.

Explanatory Note:

It is *not* intended that a borrower should be required to produce documentary evidence to establish his eligibility under the scheme. It is expected that the officials of the bank at the branch level would be conversant with the economic and other circumstances of the borrower. They may make such local enquiries as may be required in each case before sanctioning the loan, bearing in mind the conditions mentioned in this paragraph.

4. *Categories of Eligible Persons*: Persons who satisfy the income and land holding criteria and broadly fall in the categories indicated below will be eligible to the benefits of the scheme. (The list is only illustrative and not exhaustive).

4.1. Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and others engaged on a very modest scale, in agriculture and/or allied agricultural activities.

4.2. People who themselves collect, or do elementary processing of forest products and people who themselves collect fodder in difficult areas and sell them to farmers and traders.

4.3. People physically engaged on a modest scale in the fields of cottage and rural industries and vocations. Illustrative examples are; cutting cloth and sewing garments, making reasonably cheap eatables, home delivery service of articles and commodities of daily use, running way-side tea stalls, plying of self-owned manual rickshaws and cycle-rickshaws, repairing of shoes/sandals mainly by hand, basket-making by hand etc.

4.4. Indigent students of merit going in for higher education who do not get scholarships/maintenance grants from governmental or educational authorities.

4.5. Physically handicapped persons pursuing a gainful occupation.

5. *Terms and Conditions of Loan*: The terms and conditions of loan under the scheme will be as follows:

5.1. Amount of loan will depend on the particular scheme proposed to be financed and should be adequate to enable the borrower to finance his requirements without having to borrow funds from another source. It is expected that normally, the maximum amount under the scheme may not exceed Rs. 1,500/- for a working capital loan and Rs. 5,000/- for a term loan. In exceptional cases particularly for institutions and in the case of indigent students of merit, higher amounts may be considered.

5.2. Both working capital and term-loan will be admissible in accordance with the specific requirement of the borrower.

5.3. Requirements of margin money may not be insisted upon as the category of borrowers belong to the weakest strata of society and may not always be in a position to furnish margin money.

5.4. Rate of interest will be uniformly fixed at 4 per cent per annum.

5.5. *Term Loan* for the acquisition of fixed assets shall not exceed 5 years, including a grace period not exceeding two years on the repayment of principal. The repayment schedule will be worked out in each case having regard to the nature of the activity of the borrower and the economics of the scheme. In assessing the surplus for the payment of interest and principal, due allowance should be made for the sustenance requirements of the borrower himself.

5.6. The assets purchased with the loan may be hypothecated to the bank. In addition, in appropriate cases of loans to a homogeneous group of borrowers, group guarantees may be accepted.

5.7. Each loan is to be covered under the Credit Guarantee Scheme. The guarantee fee should be met by the banks, and not charged to the borrowers.

5.8. The cost of insurance of the assets charged to the banks, if considered necessary, should be borne by the bank.

5.9. The banks may consider some suitable initial moratorium in repayment, if so warranted.

6. *Institutions*: Following institutions will be eligible for credit under the scheme.

6.1. *Orphanages and Women's Homes* where saleable goods are made and for which no adequate and dependable source of finance *e.g.* endowments or regular charities, exist.

6.2. *Institutions for physically handicapped* persons pursuing a gainful occupation where some durable equipment and/or continuous supply of raw material is useful.

Note: Institutions for physically handicapped persons, orphanages and Women's Homes will be exempted from income criteria. However, it should be ensured that these institutions utilise the funds for productive purposes only and not for meeting their normal administrative and establishment expenses. It is also necessary to verify from independent sources about the genuinness of these institutions.

7. *State Corporations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes*: Banks may route credit under the scheme through State Corporations for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes subject to the beneficiaries of the corporations meeting the eligibility criteria indicated in para 3 and other terms and conditions indicated in the scheme.

7.1. The Corporations themselves will be exempt from the income criteria.

7.2. Finances will be made available to the corporations only against specific and commercially viable schemes formulated by them. Further, the corporations will not add any service charges and the loans will flow to the beneficiaries at 4 per cent per annum rate of interest.

7.3. The corporations will be responsible for repayment of the loan on the due dates, irrespective of the state of recovery from the beneficiaries.

7.4. It will be the responsibility of the corporations to ensure that funds are utilised for the productive purposes only for which they have been sanctioned and not for meeting their normal running expenses. The cost of establishment and other expenditure

incurred for the implementation of the scheme shall be borne by the Corporations/State Governments.

7.5. Since the advances to State Corporations will not be eligible for guarantee cover from the Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd., State Governments may have to provide guarantee to the lending banks.

7.6. If a Corporation fails to pay the instalments of loans or violates any terms and conditions stipulated in the scheme, it may be liable to forfiet its right for further finance.

Export of Refrigerators

920. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is in a position to export Indian refrigerators to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the names of such countries where the Indian refrigerators are popular and demand for the same has also been made to Indian Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India has been exporting refrigerators and parts to a large number of countries in all parts of the world. The biggest importer of Indian refrigerators was Saudi Arabia followed by U.A.E., Australia, Kuwait, Philippines, Poland and Thailand.

Memorandum from Unemployed Commercial Pilots Association

921. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Unemployed Commercial Pilot's Association has demanded, among other things, creation of a third airlines parallel to Indian Airlines, to be manned exclusively by an unemployed pilots' co-operative;

(b) whether any memorandum in this regard has also been submitted by the Association to the Government; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) A proposal for setting up a third level air service for connecting small towns and cities with aircraft of smaller capacity is under consideration. It will not be possible to say at this stage what the structure of the proposed organisation would be.

Programme of flights by AIRBUS

922. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has agreed to lease out one of its newly acquired airbus aircraft to Air India to operate flights to the Gulf region;

(b) whether there is possibility to postpone its plans to extend domestic airbus services to Gauhati, Goa and Srinagar; and

(c) if so, the facts regarding the programme of airbus flights?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Negotiations are in progress between the two airlines for lease of Indian Airlines' spare Airbus capacity to Air-India for operation of two flights a week to the Gulf region.

(b) and (c). Indian Airlines will operate an Airbus service to Gauhati as soon as the aerodrome there has been made ready to receive the aircraft.

Indian Airlines would also consider operation of Airbus services to Goa and Srinagar when these airports are adequately developed for operation of wide bodied aircraft. Necessary development works at Gauhati, Goa and Srinagar are in progress.

Rise in prices in Delhi

923. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that prices in Delhi are rising alarmingly;

(b) whether the price index figure for March last year was 324 indicating that there has been a rise of 21 points over the last 12 months; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Consequent on the inflationary pressures built up in the country since the last week of March, 1976, there has been a rising trend in prices in the country as a whole, which has been reflected in the price trends in the Union Territory of Delhi as well.

(b) Yes, Sir. The consumer price index for industrial workers in Delhi (base 1960—100) had moved up from 324 in March, 1976 to 345 in March, 1977.

(c) Remedial measures taken at the national level are likely to have impact on prices and availability of essential commodities in the Union Territory of Delhi also. The measures taken include: (i) removal of restrictions on inter-State movement of wheat, (ii) increased releases of non-levy sugar for the months of May, June and July, 1977, (iii) regulated exports of potatoes and onions; (iv) continuance of imports in adequate quantities of edible oils through the State Trading Corporation and the private trade, and (v) imposition of an export duty of Rs. 5 on tea from April 9, 1977 and simultaneous withdrawal of the excise rebate on tea exports.

In addition, Delhi Administration has taken some more specific measures in this regard. These include the following:

Pursuant to a scheme of the Government of India, arrangements have been made to sell imported rapeseed oil at a retail price not exceeding Rs. 8.50 per kg. During the past three months 3000 tonnes or rapeseed oil has been put in the market in Delhi. The procurement of soft coke has been entrusted to Bharat Coking Coal Limited as a result of which the price of soft coke has been brought down from Rs. 10.82 to Rs. 10.32 per 40 kg.

An Essential Commodities Traders Advisory Committee, consisting of representatives of associations of traders of various essential commodities, National Consumer Cooperative Federation, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd., and some officials of the Delhi Administration, was formed last month to review the situation of availability of essential commodities and articles of mass consumption at reasonable prices.

It has been decided to set up 50 fruits and vegetables fair-price retail shops. Some of these shops have already started functioning.

Direct flight from Cochin and Trivandrum to Middle East by Air India

924. SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to start a direct flight from Cochin and Trivandrum to Middle East countries by Air India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): Air India do not have any proposal at present to start a direct flight from Cochin and Trivandrum to Middle East countries.

Export of rubber, coffee and spices by Kerala Government

925. SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rubber, coffee and spices exported from Kerala during 1976-77; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during that period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). The exact figures of export from Kerala State are not available. However, the quantity of coffee, rubber and spices exported from Cochin port during 1976-77 and foreign exchange earned therefrom during that period are given below:

Commodity	Quantity (Tonnes)	Foreign Exchange (Rs. Crores)
Coffee	12,585	37·78
Rubber	12,296	8·31
Spices	24,628	46·15

Cooperative Movement

927. SHRI S. KUNDU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to radicalise the cooperative movement in the country with the object to serve larger number of needy people; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). The Government of India lay great stress on the need for the cooperatives to serve larger number of needy persons, especially the weaker sections of the community. In order to provide for participation in the affairs of the co-operatives by the weaker sections, the Central Government have advised the state governments to incorporate suitable provisions in the state cooperative laws providing for automatic membership to persons who are duly qualified for admission as members under the provisions of the Act, the rules and the byelaws. This provision is intended primarily to ensure enrolment of the weaker sections of the population as members of the cooperatives. The Central Government have also advised the state govts. to provide in the state cooperative laws for compulsory reservation of seats in favour of weaker sections in the primary agricultural societies.

Special drives are being organised by the states to enrol the weaker sections in rural areas as members of the re-organised primary agricultural credit societies. Loaning policies and procedures are also being liberalised for the benefit of the weaker sections. A number of schemes have been formulated for cooperative development in fisheries, dairy, poultry, handloom, coir, seri-culture, primarily for the benefit of the weaker sections. Special

schemes have also been evolved for the scheduled castes and tribals and hill areas.

Schemes for establishment of agro-service centres and for supply of consumer articles to the rural population in general and small and needy farmers in particular have also been formulated.

The scheme for opening of retail outlets by consumer cooperative stores in cities and towns for the weaker sections has been supplemented by a specific scheme for opening of Janata shops by consumer cooperative stores exclusively for the benefit of the weakest section. The scheme would cover slums, and jhuggi-jhompri dwellers, areas predominantly inhabitated by labourers in unorganised sectors and other backward areas identified by the state governments.

केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों से अनिवार्य जमा योजना की अदायगी के बारे में ज्ञापन

928. **श्री ईश्वर चौधरी**: क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत सरकार को केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों से अनिवार्य जमा योजना की राशि की अदायगी के बारे में कोई ज्ञापन मिला है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार की उस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) कर्मचारियों पर अपने अतिरिक्त महंगाई भत्ते की आधी रकम अनिवार्य रूप से जमा कराये जाने की बंदिश 9 मई, 1977 को जारी अध्यादेश के अनुसार 6 मई, 1977 से खत्म कर दी गई है। इस अध्यादेश में यह व्यवस्था भी की गई थी कि अतिरिक्त महंगाई भत्ते की जमा रकम और उस पर मिलने वाले ब्याज की दूसरी किस्त जो जुलाई, 1977 में देय होगी वह नकद वापस नहीं की जाएगी बल्कि इसकी रकम कर्मचारियों के भविष्य निधि खातों में जमा कर दी जाएगी । अतिरिक्त महंगाई भत्ते की रकम रोकना बन्द कर दिए जाने से अर्थ व्यवस्था में हर साल लगभग 500 करोड़ रुपए का अधिक खर्च होगा । इसके साथ साथ यदि अतिरिक्त महंगाई भत्ते की जमा राशि और उसके ब्याज की दूसरी किस्त जो 326 करोड़ रुपए बैठती है, नकद दे दी जाए तो इससे अर्थ व्यवस्था की वर्तमान स्थिति पर मुद्रास्फीति का दबाव बढ़ जाएगा जिसका नतीजा यह होगा कि सबको और विशेष रूप से निम्न आय वर्ग के लोगों को बड़ी मुश्किलों का सामना करना पड़ जाएगा । इसीलिए सरकार ने यह रकम कर्मचारियों के भविष्य निधि खातों में जमा करने का फैसला किया है । कर्मचारियों के संगठनों आदि से जो अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए है, उन पर बड़े ध्यानपूर्वक विचार किया गया है, लेकिन जैसा कि ऊपर बताया गया है कि सरकार इस फसले को बदलना वांछनीय नहीं समझती ।

भारतीय कम्पनियों को रेफ्रीजरेटरों के निर्यात के लिए प्राप्त आदेश

929. **श्री ईश्वर चौधरी** : क्या **वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारतीय कम्पनियों को रेफ्रीजटरों के निर्यात के लिये हाल ही में कुछ आदेश मिले हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किस ब्राण्ड नाम के रफ्रीजटरों किस-किस देश को निर्यात किए जा रहे हैं और उनका निर्यात मूल्य क्या है ; और

(ग) इससे कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा के वार्षिक अर्जन की सम्भावना है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) (क) जी, हां। मैसर्स केलविनेटर इंडिया लि० तथा मैसर्स हैदराबाद आलविन ने रेफ्रीजरेटरों की सप्लाई के लिये आर्डर प्राप्त किये हैं।

(ख) केलविनेटर इंडिया लि० के मामले में निर्यात इराक ईरान, और पाकिस्तान को किये जायेंगे तथा हैदराबाद आलविन द्वारा विनिर्मित जम्बो रेफ्रीजरेटर के मामले में कुवैत से डार्डर प्राप्त किये गये हैं। रेफ्रीजरेटरों की भिन्न-भिन्न निर्यात कीमत उनके आकार और मेक पर निर्भर करती है।

(ग) 1977-78 के दौरान रेफ्रीजरेटरों के निर्यात से लगभग 125 लाख रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा के अर्जित होने की आशा है।

Sick Tea Gardens in Darjeeling

930. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take over Kumai Tea Estate of Dooars and Okajti Tea Estate in Darjeeling;

(b) whether the recommendation for take over was made by the Committee set up by the Central Government; and

(c) if so, when the final decision is likely to be taken on other recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c). The Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce appointed an investigation Committee for the purpose of making a full and complete investigation into the affairs of Kumai Tea Estate and Okayti Tea Estate. The Investigation Committee has submitted its reports which are under examination of Government.

Economic Offenders Detained under COFEPOSA in Gujarat

931. SHRI F. P. GAEKWARD: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of economic offenders detained under COFEPOSA in Gujarat during emergency;

(b) the number of said detenus released after lifting of emergency and number of those still under detention;

(c) the reasons for their release; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against them after their release?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) During the period of emergency, 301 smugglers and foreign exchange racketeers were detained in Gujarat under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, under orders of the Government of Gujarat and those of the Central Government.

(b) Till 31-5-1977, 95 detenus out of the said detenus were released after lifting of emergency on 21st March, 1977, and 170 persons were in detention. (The remaining 36 persons had already been released during the emergency itself.)

(c) These detenus were released on account of —

(i) lapsing of emergency provisions under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act;

(ii) completion of maximum period of detention;

(iii) the advice of the Advisory Boards;

(iv) revocation of detention order by the State Government.

(d) necessary action under the normal laws is being taken against them.

Wholesale Price Index

932. SHRI F. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state the wholesale price index at the close of the Financial year 1977 *vis-a-vis* at the close of the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): The Wholesale Price Index (1979-71=100) stood at 182.1 for the week ended March 26, 1977 as against 162.6 for the week ended March 27, 1976.

Closure of Priyalakshmi Mills at Baroda

933. SHRI F. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Priyalakshmi Mills at Baroda has been closed for the last 24 months throwing about 2,500 workers out of employment;

(b) whether Government are also aware that economic conditions of workers are pitiable and that they are greatly agitated;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take over the mills; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to re-start the mill?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Reopening of this mill has been receiving serious attention of the Government in consultation with the State Government and the bankers of the mills. Since the National Textile Corporation is already shouldering an onerous responsibility of managing 105 cotton textile mills, the Central Govenment is not in favour of taking over more sick or closed mills for management by the NTC. Central Government is anxious to see that this mill reopens at the earliest possible. The State Government's proposal for the reopening of the mill is being given due consideration.

चीनी का निर्यात

934. श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण नायक :
श्री पी० राजगोपाल नायडु :

क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में सभी साधनों से चीनी का कुल कितना वार्षिक उत्पादन होता है ;

(ख) वर्ष 1976-77 के दौरान, विदेशवार, कितनी मात्रा में चीनी का निर्यात किया गया ; और

(ग) देश में चीनी का मूल्य कितना है तथा विदेशों में निर्यात की जाने वाली चीनी भारतीय मुद्रा में किस भाव से बिकती है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) : (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान देश में

चीनी का कुल वार्षिक उत्पादन निम्नलिखित रहा है :

चीनी वर्ष	उत्पादन (लाख मी० टन में)
(अक्टूबर से सितम्बर)	
1974–75 .	47.97
1975–76 .	42.64
1976–77	48 20 (अनुमानित)

(ख) देश	मात्रा (मे० टन)
श्रीलंका .	23100
यमन .	65450
इण्डोनेशिया .	153520
सूडान .	122753
ब्रिटेन .	27121
सेशेल्स .	400
मिस्र .	48288
संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका .	75395
ईरान .	28190
रूमानिया .	17050
सोमालिया .	10500
ट्यूनिसिया .	6100
नेपाल .	1000
मालदीव .	300
योग .	579167

(ग) अप्रैल, 1976—मार्च, 1977 के दौरान बम्बई एवं दिल्ली के स्वदेशी बाजारों में डी-30 ग्रेड चीनी की औसत मुक्त बाजार कीमत (उत्पादन शुल्क सहित) तथा इसी अवधि के दौरान और लेवी चीनी की कीमत क्रमशः 459/- रुपये प्रति मे० टन तथा 1917 -रु० प्रति मे० टन थी। इसी अवधि के दौरान चीनी के निर्यात पर औसत एक ओ बी मूल्य प्राप्ति 2601.15 प्रति मे० टन थी।

सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी नहीं है कि भारत द्वारा निर्यातित चीनी को आयातक देश किस कीमत पर बेच रहे हैं।

राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा किसानों को कृषि और औद्योगिक विकास के लिए ऋण

935. **श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :** क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1975–76 और 1976–77 में बिहार राज्य में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा कृषि तथा औद्योगिक विकास के लिये किसानों को क्रमशः कितना ऋण दिया गया; और

(ख) क्या किसानों को उक्त ऋण लेने में काफी कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है जब कि उद्योगपतियों को आसानी से ऋण मिल जाते हैं ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) विवरण संलग्न है।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

भाग (क) में संलग्न विवरण से स्पष्ट होता है कि लघु उद्योगों को दिये गये अग्रिमों की तुलना में कृषि के लिये दिये गये अग्रिम राशि एवं संख्या दोनों में अधिक है। यदि कोई विशेष शिकायत की जाती है तो सम्बन्धित बैंक उसका तुरन्त निवारण करते हैं।

विवरण

कृषि एवं लघु उद्योगों के लिए बिहार में सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों द्वारा दिये गये अग्रिमों के आंकड़ों की दिसम्बर, 1975 और दिसम्बर, 1976 के अन्तिम शुक्रवार की स्थिति

(राशि लाख रुपयों में)

कृषि

	दिसम्बर, 1975		दिसम्बर, 1976	
	खातों की संख्या	बकाया	खातों की संख्या	बकाया
स्टेट बैंक आफ इंडिया समूह	59803	1593.00	88299	2778.92
राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक	53164	1767.00	80637	2767.12
जोड़	112967	3360.00	168936	5546.04

लघु उद्योग

	दिसम्बर, 1975		दिसम्बर, 1976	
	एककों की संख्या	बकाया	एककों की संख्या	बकाया
स्टेट बैंक आफ इंडिया समूह	5130	1337.27	6554	1590.73
राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक	3423	1374.74	5182	1627.99
जोड़	8553	2712.01	11736	3218.72

(अनन्तिम आंकड़े)

Cochin Air Port

936. SHRI K.A. RAJAN:

SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to expand the Cochin Airport to cope with the increasing traffic in the area;

(b) how long will it take to complete the expansion work;

(c) what is the estimated cost of the expansion scheme; and

(d) what is the total expenditure so far incurred in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (d). Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 70.05 lakhs for realigning, strengthening and extension of the runway at Cochin. The work may take about 2 years for completion. The expenditure incurred upto end of May, 1977 is Rs. 15.65 lakhs, approximately.

Black Money in the hands of Smugglers

937. SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of black money estimated to be in the hands of the smugglers;

(b) whether Government have formulated decisive plans to make the smugglers disgorge black money; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators. (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976 provides for the forfeiture of the properties acquired illegally by smugglers and foreign exchange manipulators who have been augmenting their ill-gotten gains by violations of Wealth-tax, Income-tax and other laws or by other means, whether the properties are held by them in their own names or in the names of their relatives or associates. No estimate has been made of the amount of black money in the hands of smugglers but properties of the estimated value of Rs. 23.86 crores believed to have been illegally acquired by persons to whom the Act applies, are already covered by forfeiture proceedings. The Act is being administered by officers appointed as "Competent Authorities" with headquarters at Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Delhi.

The Income-tax Department is also paying special attention to investigation in the cases of known smugglers and their associates. Special Circles have been constituted at Ahmedabad, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and other places for conducting thorough enquiries into these cases. At the central level, investigations are being co-ordinated by a separate unit set up in the Special Cell of the Directorate of Inspection (Investigation).

Action against Smugglers who went underground

938. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether top smugglers who went underground during the emergency have not surrendered before Shri Jaya Prakash Narayan recently;

(b) if so, what is the total number of such smugglers; and

(c) whether Government have taken any further action against them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING: (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Presumably the question refers to the pledge taken by 100 smugglers before Shri Jaya Prakash Narayan at Bombay on 30th April, 1977 that they would not indulge in smuggling, dissuade and prevent others from continuing such activities and help the Government. Government are not aware whether any other person who went underground during emergency surrendered before Shri Jaya Prakash Narayan recently.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Income Tax on Funds collected by Indian National Congress

939. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to various newspaper articles about large amounts of money collected by the Indian National Congress by way of advertisements to their souvenirs;

(b) the total amount of such income received by the Indian National Congress during the year 1976-77; and

(c) what steps are being taken to recover income-tax on this amount?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian National Congress maintains its accounts on calendar year basis. The required information will be available after the relevant returns of income are filed.

(c) The extent of such income will be determined when the relevant income-tax assessments are taken up. The question of recovery of tax due will, therefore, arise when the assessments are completed.

केन्द्रीय बिक्री कर

940. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पंजीकृत तथा गैर-पंजीकृत दुकानदारों से क्रमश: 9 प्रतिशत और 7 प्रतिशत की दर से केन्द्रीय बिक्री कर वसूल किया जाता है और यदि हां, तो क्या इससे दुकानदार पंजीकरण के प्रति हतोत्साहित होते है और सरकार को इस कारण हानि होती है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने परिवर्तन लाने के लिए केन्द्रीय बिक्री कर ढांचे का कोई पुनरीक्षण किया है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) केन्द्रीय बिक्री-कर अधिनियम, 1956 में किसी पंजीकृत व्यापारी के पंजीकरण प्रमाणपत्र में विनिर्दिष्ट माल की अन्तर्राज्यीय बिक्री पर 4 प्रतिशत की दर से कर लगाने की व्यवस्था है। धारा 14 में उल्लिखित घोषित माल के अपंजीकृत व्यापारियों को की जाने वाली अन्तर्राज्यीय बिक्री पर, ऐसे माल पर स्थानीय बिक्री कर की दरों से दुगनी दरों पर कर लगाया जाता है । अपंजीकृत व्यापारियों को अन्तर्राज्यीय व्यापार में बचे जाने वाले घोषित माल से भिन्न माल पर 10 प्रतिशत की दर से अथवा इस माल पर लगायी जाने वाली राज्य सरकार की दर से, इन में से जो भी अधिक हो, उस दर से कर लगाया जाता है। ये दरें एक ऐसी सामान्य छूट के अधीन है कि जहां कोई माल साधारणतया किसी राज्य में बिक्री कर से मुक्त है अथवा उस पर साधारणतया 4 प्रतिशत से कम की दर से कर लगाया जाता है वहां ऐसे माल की अन्तर्राज्यीय बिक्री पर भी सामान्यतया छूट प्राप्त होगी

अथवा, अपेक्षाकृत उस निम्न दर पर कर लगेगा, जैसा भी मामला हो । ऐसा करते समय इस बात का विचार नहीं किया जायगा कि क्या ऐसी अन्तर्राज्यीय बिक्री पंजीकृत व्यापारी को की गई है अथवा अपंजीकृत व्यापारी को ।

(ख) चूंकि किसी भी हालत में अपंजीकृत व्यापारियों को की जाने वाली बिक्री पर लगने वाली कर की दर, पंजीकृत व्यापारी को की जाने वाली अन्तर्राज्यीय बिक्री पर लागू दर से कम नहीं हो सकती, इसलिये केन्द्रीय बिक्री कर के ढांचे की समीक्षा का प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Hotels run by I.T.D.C.

941. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various hotels run by India Tourism Development Corporation in the country and their locations;

(b) whether the managers and some other staff of the hotels are provided accommodation inside the hotels and also provided free food;

(c) the amount thus spent on their boarding and lodging inside the hotel calcutta on commercial rates; and

(d) whether in view of the heavy expenditure on them, Government propose to ask them to search accommodation outside and save the exchequer from this heavy loss being incurred on this account?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) the India Tourism Development Corporation is at present running the following 15 hotels:

S. No.	Name of Hotel	Location
1	Ashoka Hotel	New Delhi
2	Akbar Hotel	New Delhi
3	Janpath Hotel	New Delhi
4	Lodhi Hotel	New Delhi
5	Ranjit Hotel	New Delhi
6	Qutab Hotel	New Delhi
7	Hotel Ashoka	Bangalore
8	Aurangabad Hotel	Aurangabad
9	Airport Hotel	Calcutta
10	Kovalam Hotel	Kovalam
11	Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel	Mysore
12	Hotel Pataliputra	Patna
13	Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel	Udaipur
14	Varanasi Hotel	Varanasi
15	Khajuraho	Khajurah

(b) In most of the hotels, Managers, and a few cases other staff also, have been provided accommodation inside the hotel and also free duty meals so that they are available on call. For such accommodation, house rent at 10 per cent for unfurnished and 12/1-2 per cent for furnished accommodation is deducted from their salaries, except in cases where free accommodation is allowed as per the terms and conditions of appointment.

(c) Rs. 26,85,450.00 in an year.

(d) A committee has been constituted to review the scale of existing residential accommodation allotted to the General Managers/Managers/Assistant Managers of hotels/motels and travellers' lodges of the Corporation and to recommend suitable standards for such accommodation in respect of different establishments.

Report on the working of the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited, New Delhi

942. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an officer from the office of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Delhi attended the General Body meetings—Special and Ordinary, both of the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited, New Delhi held on 5th August, 1976 as an observer;

(b) if so, the nature of report submitted by him;

(c) whether a resolution moved by a Director for the continuance of the Board of Directors for another year was defeated in the meeting; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the continuance of the Board of Directors for another year and the steps proposed to be taken by the Registrar to dissolve the Board of Directors to honour the verdict of the General Body and take action against the persons who have violated the provisions of law in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) An Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Delhi, attended the Annual and Special General Body meetings of the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited held on 5th August, 1976, as an invitee.

(b) No report was submitted.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The specific item on the agenda of the Special General Body meeting of the Society held on 5th August, 1976 was to approve certain amendments in the bye-laws of the Society relating to the tenure of Delegates and the term of Office of elected Directors, so that fresh elections may be held on the basis of the amended bye-laws. The General Body approved the proposed amendments.

In this connection, it may be mentioned that Section 31(3) of the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act 1972 and Rule 62(1) of the Delhi Cooperative Societies Rules 1973 provide that the elected members of the Board of Management can continue to hold office till their successors are elected under the provisions of the Act or the Rules or bye-laws.

The Registrar of Cooperative Societies notified the registration of the amendments on 19th April, 1977. The election of Delegates was, accordingly, held on 12th May, 1977. The election of Directors is scheduled for 27th June, 1977.

Reserved percentage for S.C. and S.T. in the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation

943. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for various categories of posts from lowest to highest category in his Ministry and its attached and subordinate offices;

(b) the extent to which the reserved quota has been filled up at all levels;

(c) whether there is any category of posts where the representation of this category is not adequate; and

(d) the time by which the posts reserved are likely to be filled up from the candidates of reserved category?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (d). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Functioning of I.T.D.C.

944. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to overhaul the structure and functioning of India Tourism Development Corporation with a view to making it more efficient as well as economical; and

(b) if so, broad indications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). A Committee on the restructuring of ITDC was constituted in 1974 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Ajit Mozoomdar, the then Secretary (Expenditure), with the following terms of reference:—

(a) To review the working of the India Tourism Development Corporation and its main constituent units, in the light of the observations made by the Public Undertaking Committee of the Parliament in its 51st Report.

(b) To examine the organisational and administrative structure of the I.T.D.C. with particular reference to its existing and proposed activities in the Fifth Plan period and to suggest changes that should be made for the more efficient fulfilment of the objectives of the Corporation and the expenditious implementation of its programme

It is hoped that the report of the Committee would be finalised shortly and submitted to the Government soon. There is also a proposal under consideration to constitute a Committee on rationalisation of wage structure in I.T.D.C. with the following terms of reference:—

(1) The Committee will be required to enquire into and recommend as to what revision is necessary in the existing emoluments structure of the non-officer employees.

(2) Whether to put all non-officer employees on a standard wage structure including common Dearness Allowance formula irrespective of their sphere of activities.

(3) Whether different categories of non-officer employees working in Hotel and Catering Establishment should have a common wage structure irrespective of classifications of establishment business turn-over capital invested and type of services offered.

(4) Whether all non-officer employees of the ITDC engaged in different activities should have similar fringe benefits and service amenities.

(5) Any other related matter on which the Committee may deem it necessary to make any recommendation.

Purchase of Aircraft

945. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have purchased all the aircraft for which firm orders were placed by the previous Congress Government;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c). Air India placed orders for purchase of two Boeing 747-237 aircraft in December, 1976 and February 1977. The aircraft are due for delivery in December, 1977 and May, 1978.

Indian Airlines placed orders for purchase of three Boeing-737 aircraft on the 9th February, 1977. These aircraft are due for delivery by the end of November, 1977.

Payment of Bonus to L.I.C. Employees

946. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the bonus for the year 1975-76 payable to the Life Insurance Corporation Employees in the month of April, 1976, was not paid: and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The matter is under consideration.

Impounding of Aircraft belonging to Swami Dhirendra Brahmachari

947. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Customs Department has recently seized the private three seater executive jet aircraft belonging to Swami Dhirendra Brahmachari if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that Swami Dhirendra Brahmachari has been leading a very luxurious life and if so, the estimated monthly expenses by Swami D. Brahmachari;

(c) whether he had been paying any tax to the Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) On 29-4-77, the Customs authorities at Delhi seized one Maule aeroplane M-5-235-C with accessories, imported from U.S.A. in the name of Aparna Ashram, Mantalai, District Udhampur, Jammu and Kashmir by Shri Dhirendra Brahmachari, The seizure was made on the ground that the conditions governing the exemption from customs duty on the said aeroplane and accessories had been violated.

(b) Lately, some reports about Swami Dhirendra Brahmachari's leading a luxurious life have appeared in the Press. No estimate has so far been made of his monthly expenses.

(c) Yes, Sir. He has been paying income-tax.

(d) Does not arise.

Export of Cotton to Bangladesh

948. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to give 10,000 bales of cotton to Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons for giving the same when the country itself is importing cotton?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a). Government had received some time back a request from the Government of Bangladesh for supply of 10,000 bales of raw cotton to help them tide over a temporary shortage of cotton for the mills. However, the Bangladesh Government themselves did not pursue that request.

(b). Does not arise.

Money advanced by Nationalised/ Non-Nationalised Banks to Maruti Ltd.

949. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased state:

(a) the names of nationalised and non-nationalised banks who have advanced money to Maruti Ltd. during the last three years;

(b) amount of money so far advanced to Maruti Ltd. and its sister concerns by each such bank during the same period;

(c) whether any amount has so far been returned by Maruti Ltd., and if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) the terms on which the loans have been advanced by these banks; and

(e) action taken by nationalised banks to recover the money from Maruti Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (e). In accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers and also in conformity with the provisions of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, the State Bank of India Act, 1955 and the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, information relating to the individual constituents of all commercial banks including public sector banks is not to be divulged. It is not, therefore, possible to furnish the information sought for by the Hon'ble Member.

Government of India have constituted a Commission of Inquiry under section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 to enquire into the affairs of Maruti Group of Companies. The terms of reference of this Inquiry Commision, *inter alia* include all matters relating to the securing of accommodation, loans or other assistance from nationalised banks and other financial instiutions by the Maruti concerns, including the eligibility of the said concerns to obtain the financial assistance sought for, the standard of care with which the applications were considered and the measure of conformity to the policies, practices, rules and directives for the time being in force in regard to grant of such assistance.

Payment of Amount deposited in Compulsory Deposit Scheme

950. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) how many people were partially paid in the form of impounded Compulsory Deposit Scheme since October, 1976 to April, 1977 with figures thereof State-wise; and

(b) the total amount, the workers have deposited as C.D. in private sector of Jute industry, Engineering industry and Textile industry?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL):

(a) and (b). Repayment of the second instalment of additional wages deposits and of the first instalment of additional dearness allowance deposits fell due in July, 1976 under the Additional Emoluments (Compulsory Deposit) Act, 1974. Some of these repayments which could not be completed in time spilled over into the period from October, 1976 to April, 1977. Under the Scheme, the detailed accounts of deposits made by, and repayments made to, the employees in the public and private sector units are maintained by the concerned employers, numbering over 70,000. As Nominated Authorities under the Act, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners (RPFCs) in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation maintain only employer-wise accounts of deposits and repayments due under the Act. Hence, the figures of repayments made to employees are available only region-wise. Similarly, the amounts deposited are available region-wise and not industry-wise. A statement is annexed showing region-wise:

(a) the total amount of compulsory deposits made by employees in private and public sector units till April, 1977, and

(b) the amounts due in July, 1976 to the said employees by way of repayment of additional wages and additional dearness allowance deposits, and the amounts actually repaid

there against till the end of April, 1977.

STATEMENT

Figures in Rs. lakhs

Sl. No.	Name of the region	The total amount of compulsory deposits made by employees in private and public sectots till April 1977	Amounts due to employees in private and public sectors as repayments in July, 1976	Amount acutally repaid till the end of April 1977
1	2	3	4	5
1	R.P.F.C. Hyderabad	3431·77	518·87	518·03
2	R.P.F.C. Shillong	789·76	122·87	97·10
3	R.P.F.C. Patna	7429·22	1170·09	1164·49
4	R.P.F.C. Delhi	3176·35	481·79	477·85
5	R.P.F.C. Ahmedabad	3877·54	599·29	598·29
6	R.P.F.C. Bangalore	4062·34	680·73	625·54
7	R.P.F.C. Trivandrum	1509·54	234·47	231·03
8	R.P.F.C. Indore	3360·12	529·37	497·22
9	R.P.F.C. Bombay	14098·07	2112·00	2067·32
10	R.P.F.C. Bhubaneshwar	1260·33	198·86	197·67
11	R.P.F.C. Chandigarh	2584·06	356·84	346·16
12	R.P.F.C. Jaipur	1344·21	198·24	197·06
13	R.P.F.C. Madras	6370·31	991·53	939·43
14	R.P.F.C. Kanpur	5053·02	724·21	576·55
15	R.P.F.C. Calcutta	11084·02	1699·43	1696·46
	Total	69430.66	10618.59	10230.20

Revitalisation of Powerloom Industry

951. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of powerlooms are idle in the country due to high prices of raw materials and slump in market;

(b) if so, the steps Government intend to take to revitalise the powerloom industry;

(c) whether Government are aware of the demand made by the all India Powerloom Weavers' Federation for the exemption from the compound levy; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b). The question of a new policy approach to the powerloom sector as part of a set of coordinated policies for the various sectors of the textile industry, is under consideration of the Government.

(c). Yes, Sir.

(d). The matter is under consideration.

Supply of Essential Commodities to Fair Price Shops

952. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) how far are Government following former Government's policy of supplying essential commodities to the fair price shops in the country;

(b) whether Government intend to increase the number of fair price shops and the quantity of supply; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c). While supply of essential commodities through the fair price shops in the country continues, the question of strengthening the public distribution system, especially to cover the weaker sections of the community, both in the rural and urban areas, is under the consideration of Government.

Controlled Cloth Policy

953. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the controlled cloth policy;

(b) whether Government have also examined its effect on the industry as a whole; and

(c) if so, the salient features of their findings thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA). (a) to (c). The operation of the scheme for the production of controlled cloth has been kept under constant review and modifications in the scheme are being made from time to time to meet the developing situations. Some modifications were made in the scheme only recently in January 1977 after keeping in view the effect of the scheme on the industry and the interests of the vulnerable sections of the population for which the scheme is intended. Further review is being undertaken.

Retirement of Ex-Governor of Reserve Bank

954. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) when was the Ex-Governor of Reserve Bank Shri K. R. Puri due to retire under rules;

(b) whether the Governor retired from the service earlier than the schedule; and

(c) if so, what reasons he has assigned for his earlier retirement?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The term of Shri K. R. Puri, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India was due to expire on 19th August, 1978. He was allowed to retire from the post of the Governor on 2nd May, 1977 at his own request. Shri Puri did not assign any reasons for his retirement.

पटना से दिल्ली के लिए प्रातः विमान-सेवा

955. **डा० रामजी सिंह :** क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार पटना से प्रातः विमान सेवा न होने के कारण लोगों को होने वाली कठिनाइयों से अवगत है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का पटना से दिल्ली के लिए कोई प्रातः विमान सेवा प्रारम्भ करने का प्रस्ताव है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोतम कौशिक) : : (क) और (ख) इंडियन एयरलाइन्स का पटना-दिल्ली सेक्टर पर प्रातःकालीन सेवा चलाने का फिलहाल कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है क्योंकि इसके विमान बेड़े के सभी विमान वर्तमान समयसारणी के अनुसार पूर्ण रूप से व्यस्त हैं।

Legal Notice served on S.T.C.

965. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any legal notice has been served on the State Trading Corporation by some foreign company for not fulfilling contractual obligation of supplying fermented ethyl alcohol steadily;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study as to why the supply could not be maintained properly; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) STC had entered into two contracts with a Swiss firm for supply of 8,200 metric tons of ethyl alcohol. After part supplies had been affected, shortages started appearing in the States from where Release Orders had been made by Government. While efforts to procure alcohol from elsewhere were being made, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers reviewed the production and demand for alcohol in the country for the alcohol year 1976-77 and had to revoke the export authorisation itself.

The legal notice has been suitably replied by the S.T.C.

Loan Scheme for Poor

957. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any loan scheme for poor to cover more areas and to expand and streamline the differential rate of interest under which weaker sections are given bank loans at the very low interest rate of 4 per cent; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes; Sir.

(b) A copy of the revised guidelines of Differential Rate of Interest Scheme is enclosed herewith.

Statement

Revised Guidelines on Differential Rate of Interest Scheme

1. **Scope and Coverage**

1.1. The Scheme will be operative in the entire country.

1.2. **Target.**—Banks should lend under the scheme minimum of ½ of 1 per cent of their aggregate advances as at the end of previous year.

1.3. In order to ensure that the weaker sections in the rural area derive maximum benefit under the scheme and bulk of the advances are not preempted by urban/metropolitan areas. the banks operating the scheme will ensure that not less than 2/3rd of their advances under this scheme are routed through their rural and semi-urban branches. Correspondingly not more than 1/3rd of their credit under the scheme may go from their urban and metropolitan branches.

1.4. To ensure that persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes get their due share of benefits under the scheme, not less than 1/3rd of the bank credit under the scheme should flow to the eligible borrowers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

2. **Operational Agencies**

2.1. **Public Sector Banks.**—The scheme of Differential Rate of Interest will be operated by all the public sector banks.

2.2. **Non-nationalised banks.**—Non-nationalised banks having lead responsibilities will operate the scheme at least in their lead districts. Other non-nationalised banks may also implement the scheme on a voluntry basis.

2.3. **Regional Rural Banks.**—Under the scheme of Regional Rural Banks, credit is to be made available to the borrowers at the same rates as the cooperatives. These banks are therefore, not permitted to advance credit at concessional rates of interest. To ensure that the persons served by these banks can also avail themselves of the benefits of the Scheme, the sponsoring banks may lend through Regional Rural Banks on an agency basis. Thus, eligible borrowers will be able to obtain loans at the rate of 4 per annum in the areas served by the Regional Rural Banks.

3. **Eligibility Criteria.**—The categogories of persons enumerated in para 4 will be eligible to the benefits of the scheme even if they have no tangible security of any worth to offer or. cannot produce a security/guarantee of a well to do party, provided they satisfy the criteria laid down below:

3.1. Family income of the borrower from all sources does not exceed Rs. 3,000/-per annum in urban or semi-urban areas or Rs. 2,000/--per annum in rural areas.

3.2. He does not own any land or the size of his holding does not exceed one acre in the case of irrigated land and 2.5 acres in the case of un-irrigated land.

3.3. Members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are eligible for the loan irrespective of their land to holdings, provided they satisfy the other criteria.

3.4. He can be helped to rise above his present economic level through a productive endeavour with assistance from banks, the productive endeavour being as such would become economically viable within a priod of, say, 3 years.

3.5. He does not incur liability to two sources of finance at the same time.

3.6. He works largely on his own and with such help as other members of his family or some joint partners may give to him and does not employ paid employees on a regular basis.

Explanatory Note:

It is not intended that a borrower should be required to produce documentary evidence to establish his eligibility under the scheme. It is expected that the officials of the bank at the branch level would be conversant with the economic and other circumstances of the borrower. They may make such local enquiries as may be required in each case before sanctioning the loan, bearing in mind the conditions mentioned in this paragraph

4. **Categories of Eligible Persons.**— Persons who satisfy the income and land holding criteria and broadly fall in the categories indicated below will be eligible to the benefits of the scheme. (The list is only illustrative and not exhaustive).

4.1. Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and others engaged on a very modest scale, in agriculture and/or allied agricultural activities.

4.2. People who themselves collect, or do elementary processing of forest products and people who themselves collect fodder in difficult areas and sell them to farmers and traders.

4.3. People physically engaged on a modest scale in the fields of cottage and rural industries and vocations. Illustrative example are; cutting cloth and sewing garments, making reasonable cheap eatables, home delivery services of articles and commodities of daily use, running way-side tea stalls, plying of self-owned manual rickshaws and cycle-rickshaws, repairing of shoes/sandals mainly by hand, basket-making by hand etc.

4.4. Indigent students of merit going in for higher education who do not get scholarships/maintenance grants from governmental or educational authorities.

4.5. Physically handicapped persons purusing a gainful occupation.

5. **Terms and Conditions of Loan.**— The terms and conditions of loan under the scheme will be as follows:

5.1. Amount of loan will depend on the particular scheme proposed to be financed and should be adequate to enable the borrower to finance his requirements without having to borrow funds from another source. It is expected that normally, the maximum amount under the scheme may not exceed Rs. 1,500/-for a working capital loan and Rs. 5,000/-for a term loan. In exceptional cases particularly for institutions and in the case of indigent students of merit, higher amounts may be considered.

5.2. Both working capital and term-loan will be admissible in accordance with the specific requirement of the borrower.

5.3. Requirements of margin money may not be insisted upon as the category of borrowers belong to the weakest strata of society and may not always be in a position to furnish margin money.

5.4 Rate of interest will be unformly fixed at 4 per cent per annum.

5.5. **Term Loan.**—for the acquisition of fixed assets shall not exceed 5 years, including a grace period not exceeding two years on the repayment of principal. The repayment schedule will be worked out in each case having regard to the nature of the activity of the borrower and the economics of the scheme. In assessing the surplus for payment of interest and principal, due allowance should be made for the sustenance requirements of the borrower himself.

5.6. The assets purchased with the loan may be hypothecated to the bank. In addition, in appropriate cases of loans to a homogeneous group of borrowers, group guarantees may be accepted.

5.7. Each loan is to be covered under the Credit Guarantee Scheme. The guarantee fee should be met by the banks, and not charged to the borrowers.

5.8. The cost of insurance of the assets charged to the banks, if considered necessary, should be borne by the bank.

5.9. The banks may consider some suitable initial moratorium in repayment, if so warranted.

6. **Institution.**—Following institution will be eligible for credit under the scheme.

6.1. **Orphanages and Wowen's Homes.**—where saleable goods are made and for which no adequate and dependable source of finance e.g. endowments or regular charities, exist.

6.2. **Institutions for physically handicapped.**— Persons pursuing a gainful occupation where some durable equipment and/or continuous supply of raw material is useful.

Note.—Institutions for physically handicapped persons, orphanages and Women's Homes will be exempted from income criteria. However, it should be ensured that these institutions utilise the funds for productive purposes only and not for meeting their normal administrative and establishment expenses. It is also necessary to verify from independent sources about the genuineness of these institutions.

7. **State Corporation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.**—Banks may route credit under the scheme through State Corporations for the welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes subject to the beneficiaries of the corporations meeting the eligibility criteria indicated in para 3 and other terms and conditions indicated in the scheme.

7.1. The Corporations themselves will be exempt from the income criteria.

7.2. Finances will be made available to the corporations only against specific and commercially viable schemes formulated by them. Further, the corporations will not add any service charges and the loans will flow to the beneficiaries at 4 per cent per annum rate of interest.

7.3. The corporations will be responsible for repayment of the loan on the due dates, irrespective of the state of recovery from the beneficiaries.

7.4. It will be the responsibility of the Corporations to ensure that funds are utilised for the productive purposes only for which they have been sanctioned and not for meeting their normal running expenses. The cost of establishment and other expenditure incurred for the implementation of the scheme shall be borne by the Corporations/State Governments.

7.5. Since the advances to State Corporations will not be eligible for guarantee cover from the Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd., State Governments may have to provide guarantee to the lending banks.

7.6. If a Corporation fails to pay the instalments of loans, or violates any terms and conditions stipulated in the scheme, it may be liable to forfeit its right for further finance.

Airbus Purchase Deal

958. SHRI GAURI SHANKAR RAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of agents through whom the airbus purchase deal was finalised;

(b) were the agents wholly or partially Indian owned firm;

(c) when was the original proposal for purchase of airbus received; and

(d) when was the deal finalised?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). The purchase of three Airbus A-200B2 aircraft was finalised by Indian Airlines directly with the manufacturer, namely, Airbus Industrie, Franch and not through any agents.

(c) and (d). The initial offer for sale of Airbus A-300E2 aircraft was received by Indian Airlines in January, 1972. The purchase agreement was signed on 31st December, 1974 subject to Indian Airlines obtaining approval of the Government of India under the Air Corporations Act 1953 and making financing arrangements acceptable to the Government of India to meet the foreign exchange cost of the project. Indian Airlines on receipt of the necessary Government approval confirmed the order for purchase of three aircraft, on the 29th April, 1975.

Feasibility study for purchase of Airbus

959. SHRI GAURI SHANKAR RAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any feasibility study was made before finalising the purchase of Airbus-300;

(b) whether any experts committee was appointed by the Indian Airlines or his Ministry to assess and evaluate the feasibility and suitability;

(c) who were members of such feasibility study team; and

(d) what was the opinion of the study team?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (d). While no Export Committee as such was appointed, a team of senior officers of the Planning, Engineering, Operations, Commercial and Finance Departments of the Indian Airlines assessed and evaluated the feasibility and suitability of the Airbus A-300B2 aircraft along with other wide bodied aircraft offered to them. The team worked under the supervision of the then Chairman and Managing Director and Deputy Managing Directors of the Corporation. Purchase of three Airbus A-300B2 aircraft was recommended by the Indian Airlines on the basis of the evaluation and assessment made by the team of senior officers.

Terms, conditions and prices of Airbus

960. SHRI GAURI SHANKAR RAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the original terms and price at which Airbus was offered to the Indian Airlines;

(b) the terms, conditions and prices of final purchase deal in each case of purchase;

(c) were the Finance Ministry, the Law Ministry or/and Planning Commission consulted at any stage; and

(d) what was the opinion of each of them?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The original offer of Airbus Industrie for Airbus A-300B2 aircraft to Indian Airlines was at a base price of US $15.217 million in January, 1972.

(b) The base price of each Airbus A-300B2 aircraft was fixed at US $19.303 million as in January, 1974. This was to be escalated at an agreed formula depending upon the indices of economy prevalent in Europe and

USA. However, a provision made in the contract that at the time of delivery of the aircraft in 1976, the price will not exceed US $24.4 million per aircraft. In actual fact, the average price of the three aircraft came to US $23.68 million each.

(c) and (d). The proposal submitted by Indian Airlines was approved by Government in accordance with the prescribed procedures which include consultation with Ministries etc. concerned.

Central Assistance for Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme

961. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have approached his Ministry seeking Central assistance for continuance of Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme;

(b) if so, the assistance sought and problems raised by the State Government; and

(c) the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Government of Maharashtra has requested the Government of India and the Reserve Bank to arrange for a total credit of Rs. 85 crores during 1977-78 under the scheme for monopoly purchase of cotton.

(b) The State Government wants the Reserve Bank to arrange for Rs. 60 crores either directly or through State Cooperative Bank. The remaining Rs. 25 crores will be met from the State Cooperative Marketing Federation's own resources.

(c) The entire matter is under consideration and though a formal decision has yet to be taken it has been conveyed to the Government of Maharashtra that the Government of India do not favour monopoly purchase by a State. While Government recognise the important role that cooperatives can play in the marketing of agricultural produce, it is their assessment that the monopoly procurement scheme as it has operated in Maharashtra has worked to the disadvantage of cotton growers particularly the small growers and has thereby contributed to a decline in production of raw cotton in that State.

फारस की खाड़ी वाले देशों को विमान सेवा

962. श्री उग्र सेन : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत से फारस की खाड़ी जाने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या निरन्तर बढ़ रही है और अपर्याप्त विमान सेवा के कारण इन यात्रियों को कठिनाई हो रही है और यदि हां तो इस बारे में विद्यमान व्यवस्था क्या है ; और

(ख) स्थिति में सुधार करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक (क) और (ख) भारत और 'गल्फ' के देशों में यातायात काफी बढ़ गया है, तथा एयर इंडिया बढ़े हुए यातायात की आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करने के लिए गल्फ के विभिन्न देशों के लिए अपनी सेवाओं में निरन्तर वृद्धि कर रही है। अप्रैल, 1975 में भारत गल्फ, मार्ग पर एयर इंडिया बोइंग 707 विमानों द्वारा प्रति सप्ताह सात सेवायें परिचालित कर रही थी, उनके मुकाबले में इस समय वह गल्फ के विभिन्न स्थानों के लिए प्रति सप्ताह

24 आवृत्तियां (Frequencies) परिचालित कर रही है (जिनमें कुवैत के मार्ग से यू०एस०ए० जाने वाली तीन सेवाएं भी सम्मिलित हैं) इन में से पांच आवृत्तियां बोइंग 747 विमानों द्वारा और शेष बोइंग 707 विमानों द्वारा परिचालित की जा रही हैं ।

उपरोक्त नियमित सेवाओं के अलावा एयर इंडिया ने गल्फ के विभिन्न स्थानों लिए कई अतिरिक्त सेवाएं तदर्थ आधार पर भी परिचालित की हैं ।

2. गल्फ एयर, साउदी अरेबियन एयरलाइन्स, कुवैत एयरवेज़ी इत्यादि विदेशी विमान कम्पनियों ने भी अपनी आवृत्तियों की संख्या में वृद्धि करके और अथवा विशालकाय विमानों द्वारा परिचालन प्रारंभ करके अतिरिक्त क्षमता प्रदान की है ।

Banking Service Commission

963. SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Banking Service Commission has been constituted;

(b) if so, the composition of the Commission; and

(c) whether the Commission has started functioning?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The Banking Service Commission was set up on 21st February, 1977. In terms of Section 4(1) of the Banking Service Commission Act the Commission shall consist of a Chairman and not more than 8 Members. So far, only the Chairman of the Commission has been appointed. The Commission has not yet started recruitment of personnel for banks.

Frontier Tea Company

964. SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Frontier Tea Company, a British owned Company in Assam, has sold off their interest in India; and

(b) if so, who has bought the garden of the company in upper Assam?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) It is presumed that the Member refers to the Assam Frontier Tea Company. This Company has not sold off its interests in India.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Edible Oil

965. SHRI PRADYUMNA BAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state whether Government have any plan of further importing of edible oil to meet the emergency arising out of shortage?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Yes, Sir.

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT OF ENQUIRY COMMITTEE ON FIRE IN GODOWNS OF COTTON CORPORATION OF INDIA AND A STATEMENT, NOTIFICATION UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, CERTIFIED ACCOUNTS ETC. OF TEXTILES COMMITTEE, BOMBAY FOR 1974-75 AND PAPERS UNDER COMPANIES ACT.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (a) A copy of the Report of Enquiry Committee to investigate the causes of fire incidents which occurred in the godowns of the Cotton Corporation of India during 1971-72 and 1972-73.

(b) A statement showing the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the above Committee. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-367/77].

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(i) The Cotton Control (Second Amendment) Order, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 517(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1976.

(ii) The Cotton Textiles (Control) (Third Amendment) Order, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 814(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st December, 1976. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-368/77].

(3) A copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Textiles Committee, Bombay, for the year 1974-75 and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Textiles Committee Act, 1963. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-369/77].

(4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1975-76.

(ii) Annual Report of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited. New Delhi, for the year 1975-76 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-370/77].

NOTIFICATION UNDER AIRCRAFT ACT, ANNUAL REPORT, ETC. OF I.T.D.C., LTD., FOR 1975-76, ETC. AND A STATEMENT.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Aircraft (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1639 in Gazette of India dated the 20th November, 1976, under section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934 together with an explanatory memorandum. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-371/77].

(2) (a) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1975-76 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.

(b) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above Report. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-372/77].

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS (COMMERCIAL EMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT) RULES, NOTIFICATIONS UNDER GOVERNMENT SAVINGS CERTIFICATES ACT, GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANKS ACT AND REGIONAL RURAL BANKS ACT.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Central Government Officers (Commercial Employment after Retirement) Rules, 1977 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 754 in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 1977, under sub-section (11) of section 6A of the Provident Funds Act, 1925. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-373/77].

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Government savings Certificates Act, 1959:—

(i) The National Savings Certificates (Fifth Issue) (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1742 in Gazette of India dated the 8th December, 1976.

(ii) The Post Office Savings Certificates (Third Amendment) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1743 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(iii) The National Savings Certificates (Fourth Issue) (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1744 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(iv) The National Savings Certificates (Fifth Issue) (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 9 in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1977.

(v) The National Savings Certificates (Fourth Issue) (Amendment) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 445 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1977.

(vi) The National Savings Certificates (Fifth Issue) (Amendment) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 446 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1977. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-374/77].

(3) A copy of the Post Office Savings Banks (Amendment) Rules, 1977 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 143(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1977, under sub-section (3) of section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-375/77].

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 29 of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976:—

(i) The Prathama Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4705 in Gazette of India, dated the 18th December, 1976.

(ii) The Gorakhpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4706 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(iii) The Haryana Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No S.O. 4707 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(iv) The Jaipur Nagaur Aanchalik Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4708 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(v) The Gaur Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4709 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(vi) The Bhojpur Rohtas Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4710 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(vii) The Samyut Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4711 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(viii) The Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Hoshangabad (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4712 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(ix) The Tungabhadra Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4713 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(x) The Puri Gramya Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4714 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xi) The Jammu Rural Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4715 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xii) The Champaran Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4716 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xiii) The Barabanki Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4717 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xiv) The Gurgaon Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4718 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xv) The Rae Bareli Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4719 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xvi) The Farrukhabad Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4720 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xvii) The Mallabhum Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4721 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xviii) The Bolangir Anchalik Gramya Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4722 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xix) The Nagarjuna Grameena Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No. S.O. 4723 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1976.

(xx) The Progiyotish Gaonlia Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 913 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxi) The Rayalaseema Grameena Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 914 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxii) The Malaprabha Grameena Bank (Meetings of Board)

Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 915 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxiii) The Mayurakshi Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 916 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxiv) The Marathwada Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 917 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxv) The Marwar Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 918 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxvi) The Bhagirath Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 919 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxvii) The Sri Visakha Grameena Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 920 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxviii) The Cauvery Grameena Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 921 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxix) The Shekhawati Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 922 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxx) The Cuttack Gramya Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 923 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxi) The Bilaspur-Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published Notification No. S.O. 924 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxii) The Magadh Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 925 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxiii) The Koraput-Panchbati Gramya Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 926 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxiv) The South Malabar Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 927 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxv) The North Malabar Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 928 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxvi) The Rewa-Sindhi Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 929 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxvii) The Tripura Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 930 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxviii) The Kosi Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 931 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xxxix) The Himachal Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 932 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977.

(xl) The Ballia Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Meetings of Board) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S.O. 933 in Gazette of India dated the 26th March, 1977. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-376/77].

NOTIFICATION UNDER STATE BANK OF INDIA (SUBSIDIARY BANKS) ACT, NOTIFICATION AMENDING NOTIFICATION UNDER CUSTOMS ACT, NOTIFICATION UNDER NAGAL AND SALES TAX ACT AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER TAMIL NADU GENERAL SALES TAX ACT

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I beg to lay:

(1) A copy of the Subsidiary Banks (Appointment of Employee Directors) (Amendment) Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1090 in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 1976, under sub-section (3) of section 62 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-377/77].

(2) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 305(E), (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st May, 1977 making certain amendments to Notification No. G.S.R. 665(E) dated the 2nd August, 1976, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 together with an explanatory memorandum. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-378/77.]

(3) A copy of the Nagaland Sales Tax (Amendment) Rules, 1977 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. FIN/TAX/79/76 in Nagaland Gazette dated the 14th April, 1977, under sub-section (4) of section 57 of the Nagaland Sales Tax Act, 1967 read with clause (c) (iii) of the Proclamation dated the 22nd March, 1975 issued by the President in relation to the State of Nagaland. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-379/77].

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of section 53 of the Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax Act, 1959 read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 31st January, 1976, issued by the President in relation to the State of Tamil Nadu:—

(i) G.O.P. 258 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 23rd March, 1977 making certain amendment to the Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax Rules, 1959

(ii) G.O.P. 259 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette, dated the 23rd March, 1977 making certain amendment to the Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax Rules, 1959.

(iii) G.O.P 402 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 30th March, 1977 making certain amendment to the Tamil Nadu General Sales Tax Rules, 1959.

(iv) G.O.Ms. 606 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 20th April, 1977.

(v) G.O.Ms. 685 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 4th May, 1977.

(vi) G.O.P. 686 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 4th May, 1977.

(vii) G.O.Ms. 690 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 4th May, 1977.

(viii) G.O.Ms. 717 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 4th May, 1977.

(ix) G.O.Ms. 735 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 4th May, 1977.

(x) G.O.Ms. 714 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazettee dated the 11th May, 1977.

(xi) G.O.P. 720 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 11th May, 1977.

(xii) G.O.Ms. 818 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 11th May, 1977.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-380/77].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER TAMIL NADU ENTERTAINMENTS ACT, ORDINANCES IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF BIHAR AND REPORTS UNDER DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION ACT, SHRI H. M. PATELS

I beg to lay:

(1) (a) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 16 of the Tamil Nadu Entertainments Act, 1939 read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 31st January, 1976, issued by the President in relation to the State of Tamil Nadu:—

(i) G.O.P. 750 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 9th July, 1975, making certain amendments to the Tamil Nadu Entertainments Tax Rules, 1939.

(ii) G.O.Ms. 1204 published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette dated the 8th September, 1976 making certain amendments to the Tamil Nadu Entertainment Tax Rules, 1939.

(b) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the above Notifications.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-381/77.]

(2) A copy each of the following Ordinances (Hindi and English versions) under article 213(2)(a) of the Constitution read with clause (c)(iv) of the Proclamation dated the 30th April, 1977 issued by the Vice-President acting as President in relation to the State of Bihar:—

(i) The Bihar Cess (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1977 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar on the 29th April, 1977.

(ii) The Bihar Molasses (Control) (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1977 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar on the 29th April, 1977.

(iii) The Bihar Taxation on Passengers and Goods (Carried by Public Service Motor Vehicles) (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1977 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar on the 29th April, 1977.

(iv) The Bihar Sales Tax Second Ordinance, 1977 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar on the 29th April, 1977.

(v) The Indian Stamp (Bihar Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1977 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar on the 29th April, 1977.

(vi) The Court Fees (Bihar Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1977 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar on the 29th April, 1977.

(vii) The Bihar Health Cess Second Ordinance, 1977 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar on the 29th April, 1977.

(viii) The Bihar Agricultural Credit Operations and Miscellaneous Provisions (Banks) Second Ordinance, 1977 promulgated by the Governor of Bihar on the 29th April, 1977.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-382/77.]

(3) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 32 of the Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, 1961:—

(i) Report on the working of the Deposit Insurance Corporation, Bombay, for the year ended the 31st December, 1975, along with the Audited Accounts.

(ii) Report on the working of the Deposit Insurance Corporation, Bombay, for the year ended the 31st December, 1976, along with the Audited Accounts.

[*Placed in Library. See.* No. LT-383/77].

PAPERS UNDER COMPANIES ACT, STATEMENTS re. DELAY IN LAYING REPORT OF NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY LTD. CALCUTTA AND ORIENTAL FIRE AND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY LTD. 1974

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I beg to lay:

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the* New India Assurance Company Limited, Bombay, for the year 1975.

(ii) Review by the Government on the working of the *General Insurance Corporation of India, Bombay, for the year 1975.

(iii) Review by the Government on the working of the *National Insurance Company Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1974.

(iv) Review by the Government on the working of the *Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1974.
[*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-384/77.[

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual report of the *National Insurance Company Limited, Calcutta for the year 1974. [*Placed in Library.. See* No. LT-385/77].

(3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report of the *Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company Limited, New Delhi for the year 1974. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-386/77.]

12.05 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF NOTIFICATIONS re. INTERIM RELIEF TO NEWSPAPER EMPLOYEES BY THEIR MANAGEMENTS

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported non-implementation of interim relief to the newspaper employees throughout the country by the managements of the newspapers in spite of Central Government's order resulting in indefinite strike all over the country by newspaper employees'."

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): It should be the Minister of Labour.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: It is given officially to me just now.

SHRI RAVINDRA VERMA: With your permission, Sir, the Labour Minister will answer the Call Attention.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, the Labour Minister. It has been changed.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): I made a statement before this honourable House on the 1st April, 1977,that notifications fixing interim rates of wages of the working journalists and non-journalist newspaper employees under Sections 13A and 13D of the Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955, would be issued immediately Accordingly, two notifications, one relating to working journalists and the other to non-journalists-were issued on the same day i.e. first April, 1977.

*The Annual Reports were laid on the Table on the 6th April, 1977.

We have requested the State Governments to let us know the progress of implementation of the notifications. We have not yet received this information from a large number of State Governments. But from the reports that have appeared in the Press, and the representations that we have received, it seems a number of employers have yet to make the payments. Some employers have also gone to Court, and obtained absolute or conditional stay orders. The main argument of such employers is that they have no paying capacity.

The House will recall that the newspaper employees had not had any general revision of their wage structure for the last 10 years or so. On a reference from Government, the wage boards made recommendations for interim relief and Government decided to notify the increases only with effect from first April, 1977 and not from an earlier date.

This decision was taken because the law as it stands does not clearly empower the Government to fix interim rates of wages retrospectively. In view of this Government believed that the newspaper employers would have no difficulty in implementing the notifications with immediate effect, while awaiting the final recommendations of the Wage Boards and Government's decision thereon.

The Federations of newspaper employees gave call for a token strike on the 16th June, 1977 to press their demand for implementation of the notifications and for an indefinite strike from the 17th June in those newspaper establishments where the interim payment has not been made.

Government are anxious that the notifications should be speedily implemented. The Government is also keen that the employees do not follow up the token strike with an indefinite strike. I am calling a meeting on the 22nd June, 1977 to discuss the matter of non-implementation with representatives of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society, the Indian Languages Newspaper Association, the All India Newspaper Employees Federation, the Indian Federation of Working Journalists and the National Union of Journalists. I have appealed to the Newspaper employees not to go on an indefinite strike so that the proposed discussions can be held in a cordial and construtive atmosphere.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, today there are no newspapers throughout the country. Yesterday throughout the country there was a strike. This shows how far the employees are agitated over this question of interim relief and from today a continuous strike will go on in those newspapers which have refused to implement even the modified order issued by this present Janata Government.

MR. SPEAKER, Sir, this is a serious matter. Government should have woken up to this question long before. This move by the Parliamentary and Labour Minister to call a meeting on the 22nd June is not justified because already the newspapers are closed and the employees are on a continuous strike. They should have acted long before.

Sir, the statements of the employees' federations and the organitions of the working journalists have made it categorically clear that their strike action is not only against the employers who have refused to implement the Wage Board awards but also against the policy of this Janata government which modified the Wage Board's recommendations because the recommendations of the Wage Board for interim releif was having retrospective effect, that is, from 1st June, 1975. Unfortunately they expected too much of the Janata government. At least, the Janata Government should try to give effect to the total award of the Wage Board.

[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

Sir, in his statement the Minister has admitted that the newspaper employees had not had any general revision in their wage structure for the last 10 years or so. During these ten years you know how much cost of living index has gone up. During these ten years how much profit the newspaper employers have amassed. All these ten years the employees and the journalists have been deprived of the rise in their wages. So they are perfectly justified in their action. The Wage Board has given the recommendations after going through the income and expenditure of all the newspapers. So, the Government should have gone into the reports of the Committee which was formed to study the economic of the newspapers. There was a Committee appointed to go into the economics of the newspaper. That Committee has gone through all the questions regarding the income and the sources of income and expenditure of the newspapers and on the basis of the recommendations of this Committee, the Wage Board have made these, recommendations. Now, the employers are coming with a plea that they have no capacity to pay this interim relief as recommended by the Wage Board It is absolutely possible for them to pay the interim relief.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you now come to the question? This is all a fact. After all you cannot take your own time. You are expected to ask a question but not to make a statement.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: The whole background is that the employers have gone to the court. The Wage Boards have gone through all the processes and they have asked the employers to send questionnaires. Many managements have refused to send the questionnaires.

Then there was some meeting where there was a unanimous decision regarding the procedures through which the Wage Boards had to go, and after following those procedures the recommendations have been given by these Wage Boards. The Prime Minister is present here. That is why I am drawing his attention to this fact. The employees went to his house to express their resentment on 12th May. But according to the report of the newspapers, it seems Mr. Desai told the delegation to go to the court. This they did not expect from the Prime Minister.

Whereas the employers had gone to the court, he is stated to have declared that he could not enforce the Government's decision. Government had done its duty they could do nothing more. This hurt the feeling of the employees. They expected something else from the new Prime Minister and the new Government. That is why I am bringing this to the notice of the Prime Minister. The employees asked the Government to take stringent measures to enforce the award of the Wage Board on the employers. The Government have so many ways to put pressure on the employers. They can stop the advertisements, they can stop granting quotas of newsprint, they can stop the permit of importing machines. All these measures must be used to force the employers to accept the demands of the interim relief as awarded by the Wage Board. I want to know from the Minister whether the Government is now prepared to put pressure on the employers so that they can accept to pay the interim relief to the employees. Whether the Government is prepared to revise the order modifying the recommendations of Wage Board? The employees have demanded that this should take effect retrospectively. So, I want clarifications on these points. One flimsy argument has been given by the hon. Minister in his statement that the law as it stood did not empower the government to fix interim rates and wages retrospectively. Taking shelter under law like this, I think, is not just. Government is sufficiently empowered to give effect

to the award of the wage board with retrospective effect.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I do not want to take as much time of the House as the hon. Member has chosen to do. As some of the prefatory remarks are such that need contradiction, you will permit me if I take a few minutes to answer his questions. First of all he said that the situation was quite serious. We agree that the situation is serious. We are keen that newspapers should come out and there should be no strike. There was a token strike yesterday. I am not sure whether the strike will continue as an indefinite strike. From the information available to us there is reasonable ground to hope that there will be no continuation of the strike unless it be that Mr. Samar Mukherjee has other special sources of information with which he can make such a statement in the House.

He said that action taken by the government was late. After the notification was issued government had to give time to the managements to implement the decision, the notification of the government. Meanwhile some of them went to the court, and the matter is now before the courts. Efforts are being made to make them understand the need to implement the decision and the notification of the government. One had to wait and see whether this was implemented. I refuse the charge that there was any undue delay on the part of the government. Government is interested in seeing that its notification is implemented. It is not interested in dramatic action which may jeopardise the chances of implementation of the decision, but in seeing that the workers may get the benefit of the notification issued by the government.

We also stated that there was considerable resentment against the attitude of the janata ministry. Perhaps he has some special source of information. As far as our information goes, there was universal welcome accorded to the decision of the government and the announcement in the House. Many organisations of working journalists as well as other employees have passed resolutions, and written to the government welcoming the decision of the government and thanking the government.

Reference was made by the hon. Member to what the Prime Minister said on the 12th. Of course the Prime Minister is present here, and he is quite competent to defend himself. But since it falls within the purview of the remarks that have been made in relation to the call attention notice, you will permit me to clarify the position. The Prime Minister said that they could go to the court because they were the aggrieved party; any aggrieved party has a right to go to the court and seek justice. Since this question has been raised, I should like to read out to you section 17(5) of the concerned Act which clearly says that "where any amount is due under this Act to a newspaper employee from an employer the newspaper employee himself or any person authorised by him in writing in this behalf.....without prejudice in any other mode of recovery make an application to the State government for the recovery of the amount due to him, and if the state government or such authority as the state government may specify in this behalf is satisfied that any amount is due to him it shall issue a certificate for the amount to the collector and the collector shall proceed to recover that amount in the same manner as arrear of land revenue. This method of recovery is specified in the Act. Therefore, what the Prime Minister said did not show any lack of sympathy and did not mean an abdication of responsibility on the part of the government, but only indicated that it is open to them to follow this course.

His main question was about retrospective effect, and he chose to use the

[Shri Ravindra Varma]

adjective flimsy. He said that the argument that we had mentioned in our statement was flimsy. I am sorry a senior Member like Mr. Samar Mukherjee chose to use such an adjective Sir, the law exists. It is not flimsy for us. It has to be respected. As the law exists today, 13(A) does not clearly empower the Government to give retrospective effect as far as interim relief is concerned. This was examined not flimsy, but seriously, with all the attention that law deserves, and after the examination we came to the conclusion that there was no clear authority. I wish, Sir, to point out to the House what would have happened if, when there was doubt on this question, we had come out with a notification which might have been challenged in the court. Even where we have full authority, our decision, notification is being challenged in the court. So where there was reasonable doubt about the position or the competence of the Government, if we had come out in a spirit of *bravado*, with some declaration or notification, it would also have been challenged and it is in that context, Sir, that we have stated that the law, as it exists, does not empower us to give retrospective effect. But this is a matter which the Government can consider and examine. This is what was stated in the statement.

Sir, as far as the other question that he raised are concerned, we are makink every effort to see that the managements, the employers implement the notification. Quite a few employers have already done so and I have called this meeting on the 22nd June precisely with the purpose of ensuring that the notification is given effect to.

श्रीमती मृणाल गोरे (बम्बई-उत्तर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती हूं कि कौन-कौन सी स्टेट्स हैं, जिन्होंने अभी तक इन्फर्मेशन नहीं दी है। दूसरी बात जो बड़े चेन न्यूज पेपरवाले हैं, उन में ऐसे कितनों ने इस को इम्प्लीमैंट कर दिया है, कितनों ने इम्प्लीमेंट करना शुरु किया है और कितनों ने इम्प्लीमैंट नहीं किया है ।

कई न्यूज-पेपरवालों ने कहा है कि फाइनेन्शल कठिनाई की वजह से हम इस को नहीं दे सकते हैं । क्या कोई भी समझदार आदमी इस बात पर विश्वास कर सकता है, जब कि बहुत से छोटे न्यूज पेपर्स ने इस को इम्प्लीमैंट कर दिया है । मिसाल के तौर पर औरंगाबाद का मराठवाड़ा है, जिस ने इस को इम्प्लीमैंट किया है । अगर छोटे न्यूज-पेपर्ज इस का इम्प्लीमैंट कर सकते हैं तो यह नामुमकिन बात है कि बड़े न्यूज पेपर्ज इस को फाइनेन्शल दृष्टि से इम्प्लीमैंट नहीं कर सकते हैं । वे एक बहाना बना कर इस को टालना चाहते है । सरकार ने जो बात मान ली है और जिस को सदन के सामने रखा है, अगर बड़े न्यूज-पेपर्ज उस बात को ठुकराने की कोशिश करते हैं तो सरकार का यह कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि कर्मचारियों को न्याय दिलाये । अगर सरकार न्याय नहीं दिला सकती है तो एक तरफ बड़े-बड़े न्यूज-पेपरवालों, बड़े मालिकों का प्रभाव बढ़ेगा, दूसरी तरफ कर्मचारियों और मजदूरों के मन में यह भावना पैदा होगी कि हम को यह सरकार न्याय नहीं दिला सकती है । इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है कि सरकार को इस के इम्प्लीमेन्टेशन के लिए शीघ्र कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए ।

आप ने 22 तारीख को मीटिंग बुलाई है, मैं समझती हूं कि आप ने इस में काफी देर कर दी है । जैसे ही आप के पास स्ट्राइक का नोटिस आया था, आप को स्ट्राइक के पहले ही मीटिंग बुलानी चाहिए थी । आज तक सरकार का जो रवैया चलता आया है कि स्ट्राइक

होने तक सरकार कुछ नहीं करेगी, इस रवैये को आप को बदलना चाहिए था । आप को नोटिस प्राप्त होने के तुरन्त बाद मालिकों को बुला कर फैसला कराने की कोशिश करनी चाहिए थी अभी भी यदि आप तारीख 22 से पहले मीटिंग बुला सकते हैं तो वह ज्यादा अच्छा होगा । जैसा श्री समर मुखर्जी साहब ने सुझाव दिया है, मेरे ख्याल से सरकार अभी भी कुछ ठोस कदम उठा सकती है, उन लोगों की नाक-दबाने का काम हो सकता है । मैं जानना चाहती हूं कि मंत्री महोदय इस के बारे में क्या कहना चाहते हैं ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, the hon. Member raised many important questions. I will try to answer them very briefly. I shall try to emulate her brevity. Sir, as far as the States are concerned, I regret to say that a majority of the States have not responded and we have not got information from them. Only a few States have responded and it is not necessary to go into each question because some States did not have popular administration at that time.

Now, as far as the next question is concerned, it is true that quite a few smaller papers, as she mentioned, have already implemented the award and one could expect, one did have a right to expect, that the bigger newspapers would follow the example of the smaller newspapers who have more hardships in many respects than bigger newspapers. She is right in pointing out the fact that smaller newspapers have given the interim relief. But I think it would not be fair for me to take the time of the House by giving the list of papers that have implemented. Some bigger newspapers have also implemented. I do not know, Sir, whether you would like me to be invidious and mention names. I have a list of both the smaller and the bigger newspapers that have implemented the award.

It is quite right that some major chains of bigger newspapers have not implemented it, even though smaller language newspapers published from non-metropolitan cities have been able to do so. It is a matter of surprise and regret, but this matter can be dealt with only by means which enable us to succeed and not by means which may prolong the stalemate if a stalemate is created.

The hon. Member said that the government should take steps to see that justice is done to the workers. I entirely agree with her. The policy of the government has been, and will continue to be, to see that workers receive expeditious justice in every regard. It is worng to think that this government waits till a strike notice is given, or a strike becomes effective, for negotiations. There are many instances where action has been taken by the government in time to see that strike do not materialise. Even now in regard to many other things this is being done. It is an unfair and wrong conclusion to arrive at, that the government will act only if strike notices are given. I can assure the House that the policy of this government will be to look at grievances as they are formulated to avoid situations of this kind. But it is not in the hands of the government only. There are three parties, and government is only one. If the other two parties act in such a manner as to precipitate issues, of course the government can only help in alleviating the situation and promoting a solution.

श्री गंगाधर अप्पा बूराडे (भिर) माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, जैसा कि हमारे साथियों ने कहा है, यह जो स्ट्राइक आज से शुरू हो रही है, इस के बारे में जो एम्पलायर्स का यह बहाना है कि उन की पेइंग कैपेसिटी नहीं है, यह केवल बहाना ही है । लेबर मिनिस्टर साहब ने जो अभी स्टेटमैंट दिया है और उस

[श्री गंगाधर अप्पा बूराड]

में पैरा 2 में यह कहा है कि कुछ स्टेट्स से जवाब नहीं आया है, क्या यह नहीं हो सकता कि इस तरह से जवाब न देना और अखबार वालों का कोर्ट में जाना, यह कहीं दोनों की साजिश हो जिससे कि जनता गवर्नमेंट को बदनाम किया जाए । जनता गवर्नमेंट जो मजदूरों के हित के लिए कानून बना रही है, उस को बदनाम करने के लिए स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स और अखबार के मालिक दोनों मिल गये हैं, कहीं ऐसा तो नहीं है ?

साथ ही साथ मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि लेबर मिनिस्टर साहब जो अब मीटिंग बुला रहे हैं, इस को पहले ही होना चाहिए था क्योंकि अब जो मीटिंग 22 तारीख को हो रही है, उस से तो 6 दिनों तक मजदूर स्ट्राइक पर रहेंगे । इसका फैसला फौरन होना चाहिए ।

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: It is unfortunate that some governments have not responded and we have not got the information from them. As far as the conspiracy which the hon. member suspects is concerned, I am not in a position to make any such statement because I have no evidence. Perhaps he is right in entertaining such a thought, but Government have no such information. Regarding the other question, if it is possible for us to have the meeting earlier, we would have no objection. But taking all factors into consideration, we thought it would not be possible to find an earlier date which would be convenient to all the parties concerned.

डा० बापू कालदाते (औरंगाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि वेतन पुनर्निधारण का सवाल कई सालों से पड़ा हुआ है । यह 10 सालों से या इस से भी ज्यादा सालों से हल नहीं हुआ है । इसलिए स्वाभाविक है कि कर्मचारियों के दिल में इस के बारे में बड़ा असंतोष है और उस का प्रदर्शन उन्होंने स्ट्राइक कर के किया है । यह हम समझ सकते हैं कि लोग हम से विशेष उम्मीद करते हैं और जो मीटिंग आप ने 22 जून को बुलाई है उस को मद्देनजर रखते हुए मैं दरख्वास्त करूंगा कि अनिश्चित काल का जो वे स्ट्राइक करना चाहते हैं उन को कहा जाए कि वे न करें, क्योंकि अगर ऐसा होता है तो सरकार इस मसले को कार्डियल एटमास्फेयर में सुलझा सकेगी । मैं श्रीमती गोरे से बिल्कुल सहमत हूं जैसा कि उन्होंने बताया कि जो प्रादेशिक पत्र हैं और छोटे पत्र हैं उन्होंने अपने कर्मचारियों को अन्तरिम रिलीफ दे दी है लेकिन जो बड़े बड़े पेपर्स हैं और जो एडवरटाइजमेंट से काफी मुनाफा कमाते हैं और उस से प्रादेशिक पत्रों को खरीद सकते हैं, वे क्यों नहीं उन को अन्तरिम रिलीफ देते हैं । मेरी समझ में यह नहीं आता है कि वे क्यों कोर्ट में जाने की कोशिश करते हैं और इस तरह से इसमें रुकावट डालने की कोशिश करते हैं । इस के बारे में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि सरकार इस के विषय में सोचे कि ऐसा क्यों है और वह उन पर कड़ी कार्रवाई करे । हम बार-बार यह कहते हैं कि हमारी सरकार जनता सरकार है यानी जनता की सरकार है, श्रमिकों की सरकार है और वह जरूर इन के हित में काम करेगी । यह जनता सरकार जो लोग मुनाफाखोरी करते हैं, श्रमिकों का शोषण करते हैं, उनके पक्ष में नहीं जाएगी बल्कि श्रमिकों के पक्ष में जाएगी । जैसा मंत्री जी ने कहा कि 22 तारीख को मीटिंग होने वाली है । मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि अगर इस मीटिंग में कोई परिणाम नहीं निकला तो सरकार क्या करने की सोच रही है ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, part of the remarks that the hon. Member made were somewhat on similar lines to the remarks that other hon. Members made. I entirely agree with him that the fact that for ten years there was no interim relief given was a serious matter, and that is precisely the reason why without waiting for even a single day, as soon as this Government came into power, it announced its decision in this regard and issued a Notification. The fact that within one week of our coming to power we issued the Notification itself shows how much we were concerned over this matter. If we were not concerned with the conditions of the workers and if we were not anxious to ensure that relief was afforded at the earliest opportunity, we need not have done so. That itself is proof of our intentions and these intentions will continue to rule all our policies and attitudes as far as workers are concerned.

Sir, then the question raised was about what had been done in this regard. I do not think, Sir, it would be right to conclude that there would be a continuous indefinite strike from today. As I said earlier, I have already made an appeal to the employees' organisations and I have reason to belive that there will be no continuous indefinite strike. I will use all the good offices that the Government can command to see that there is no continuous indefinite strike. The Hon'ble Member ended with a very interesting question, but I do not know whether it will be wise on anybody's part to ask for an answer to the question. That is a question which would plague us and it would be in our mind. But when we are calling people to discuss. can we make a statement about what we would do in case the discussions fail? I go to the discussions with an air of optimism. I have every reason to believe that the discussions will succeed. Therefore, I hope the hon. Member would not ask me to state what I would do if they fail.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore): Mr. Speaker Sir, my first query to the Minister is that when this strike notice was given and after receiving the strike notice what effort was made by the Government to bring the parties together so that there may be some sort of understanding between them. A positive reply is necessary in this matter. And the other thing is, the Minister was very much angry over the remarks that were made by Mr. Mukherjee regarding knocking out of the aspect of retrospective effect. For that reason the strike has been called by the two Federations not only against the employers' attitude, but also against the attitude shown by the Government in respect of the implementation of the interim recommendations and here is a Resolution. I may take one minute's time to read it:

> "This meeting of the Federations also expressed strong resentment against the Government of India for not granting any retrospective effect to the payment of interim relief despite the fact that both the Wage Boards had recommended interim relief retrospectively from June 1, 1975. The reasons given by the Government for not granting retrospective effect hardly convince anybody. This meeting demands that the Government should modify its Notification to incorporate full retrospective effect as recommended by both the Wage Boards."

Sir, this is the feeling of the employees and journalists. My question to the Minister is: From June 1, 1975 the recommendation was to be implemented and now the Government has come forward with a modified Notification that the recommendation is to be implemented from 1st April, 1977. Why? Why should the amount towards interim wages have been denied to the employees for more than a year (*Interruption*) or for 22 months? After a lapse of 10 years, wage board was set up; the wages board has given the recommendations. I do not know how

[Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya]

he will explain this attitude of government to the country. Is it now becoming a practice of this government....about whom we became proud when they declared that they will take up the cause of the poorer sections?

MR. SPEAKER: Will you kindly give him a chance to reply to your question?

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: My apprehension is that hereafter, other wage boards will give recommendations in respect of the other employees. If this attitude is followed, what will be the result?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: First of all, I would like to say that I do not take umbrage at any adjective that was used. I only expressed my surprise. As far as the question of the strike notice is concerned, it is not to the government that any strike notice has been served. On the government no strike notice has been served. On the employers, strike notice may have been served. (*Interruptions*) The resolution that the hon. Member refers to, was passed by one of the federations, in the month of May. The reasons why government did not call a conference of the working journalists' organizations as well as employers' organizations have already been stated by me. Mainly, the reason is that we wanted the notification to be implemented. I do not think that the hon. Member wants to suggest that the notification itself should become a matter of negotiations. That is not the attitude of the government. The government has announced its decision. It has been notified. If the hon. Member wants that the subject matter of the notification itself should become a matter of negotiations, he will be opening the flood-gates; and we would be creating a situation in which the workers themselves would find their position undermined. I hope, therefore, that that is not his intention.

As far as his reference to the modified notification is concerned, I am afraid there is some misunderstanding in his mind. We have not modified any notification. There is only one notification that we have issued; and it is to that notification that I have referred.

Then, he has expressed his anger at the fact that for 10 years, nothing was done; the wage board's recommendation was there, and the government did not implement it, he said, for 20 months. We have not been in power for 20 months. It is known to the hon. Member as well as it is known to me that other gentlemen were in power; and if they had ignored it (*Interruptions*)....and the word gentlemen includes every body —we are not responsible for it. They have been punished for it and for other heinus crimes. As soon as we came, we issued the notification; and we intend to see that the notification is implemented.

12.40 hrs.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER ON HIS PARTICIPATION IN COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS' CONFERENCE IN LONDON

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): Sir, as the House is aware, I returned this morning after attending the meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government. In this tour I also stopper off for a few hours in Tehran at the invitation of His Imperial Majesty Shahanshah and for a day in Paris as guest of the President of France. Both of them are old and valued friends with whom I was very happy to renew friendships. In my discussions we were able to advance the cause of mutual collaboration and cooperation in matters of common concern and we found a great deal of similarity of approach to world problems particularly those pertaining to energy.

This was my first trip abroad after the assumption of office by our Government. It was a matter of great satisfaction to find that following our

democratic elections and the orderly change of Government, the esteem and prestige of India had not only been restored but demonstrably enhanced in the international community. In my talks not only with the Shahanshah, the leaders of the British Government and those of France, but also with other Heads of Government attending the Commonwealth Conference, in the contacts with the Press media and indeed with people in all walks of life, there was admiration for the maturity of the Indian people in their dedication and commitment to the democratic system of Government. When questioned, on various occasions, I pointed out that the tradition of democracy was rooted in the ancient civilization of India. Foreign rule and such aberrations like the period of emergency, were contrary to our values and our national ethos. The elections have shown that in the final instance the Indian people have an inherent moral courage to judge and elect their own rulers without fear. Privately and publicly, I assured all concerned that the new Government of India, buoyed by the trust of the Indian people are totally dedicated to the principles of democracy and would ensure that our constitutional principles can never again be perverted. In turn, I was told that the extraordinary courage and sagacity of the Indian people was an asset and an encouragement to likeminded people all over the world. I, therefore, regard whatever success I achieved and attention and respect I received, as a tribute to our people who proclaimed to the whole world through their verdict their faith in democratic values, their disapproval of authoritarianism and their judgment and capacity to choose a Government which they could trust to serve them.

The Conference of Heads of Government of the Commonwealth was held in London after a lapse of eight years. The Commonwealth is, I would emphasise, an association of independent States, entirely free in their internal and external policies, some still owing allegiance to the British Crown, others with monarchies of their own and some like ourselves with a purely republican constitution, but all free to express themselves as suits the interests of their own country and motivated by securing a consensus on problems of their common concern.

The Commonwealth, as the House is aware, is a multi-racial and multi-continental community of nations representing one quarter of mankind, some rich and strong, others small and weak. But all recognise the logic of inter-dependence and commonality of interests. In population, India represents more than half of its total number of inhabitants. Unlike the United Nations, the Commonwealth is not structured or governed by elaborate procedures. It mirrors the diversity of the entire community of nations, but has a Character of informality and tradition of cooperation which is perhaps unique. The Commonwealth as it is now constituted, thus provides the kind of balance which we want to see in the world and is an institution which can in course of time set the pattern for a Commonwealth of the whole world.

The Conference met under the Chairmanship of my old friend and Prime Minister of U.K. Mr. James Callaghan. He proved an admirable Chairman whose bonhomie, cheerful disposition, balance approach to the various issues that came up were contributory to the evolution of a common outlook and approach that underlie the decisions that were reached. I found in him and all the other Heads of Government or leaders of the various countries a keen desire to take a constructive attitude and come together, rather than drift apart. The problems discussed were such sensitive subjects as those of Human Rights, Southern Africa, Indian Ocean, North-South economic relationship, the problems of developing countries, in all of which there could have been valid reasons for differences of opinion. But as the result of the deliberations en-

[Shri Morarji Desai]

bodied in the communique which was issued at the end would show, all of us showed willingness to reach a consensus without sacrifice of the national viewpoints.

We participated actively in the discussions on all subjects, particularly the review of the international situation, Southern Africa and world economic problems. In the socio-economic context, we highlighted the relevance and significance of evolving and adopting technologies appropriate to the social and economic conditions obtaining in the developing countries. We emphasised that the role of machines was to assist man in increasing his productivity and not make him their slave. We pointed out that development effort and economic progress should focus on the small and the poor and not go astray by the lure of the big and the grandiose. The crucial need for solving the problems of food production, storage and distribution and implementing our integrated programme of rural development and industrialisation were effectively brought out in our statements.

The communique issued in London day-before-yesterday which must have received the attention of Honourable Members already, reflects the range of subjects and the depth of discussions, and the broad consensus reached at the conference. It covers all major international problems like Southern Africa, the Middle East, Indian Ocean, Cyprus, and the widening gap between rich and poor nations and makes practical recommendations on economic, trade and functional cooperation within the commonwealth.

A number of Commonwealth countries were greatly concerned over the question of Human Rights in relation to Uganda. The Singapore Declaration of Principles adopted by the Commonwealth Heads of Government in 1971, affirmed the belief of all Commonwealth Government in fundamental rights and respect for human dignity and equality. As the House is only too well aware, we are fully committed to these principles. while the discussions on this subject at the conference were not without differences of opinion, a broadly acceptable formulation was eventually worked out in keeping with the Commonwealth traditions.

It would, I think, be appropriate at this stage to pay tribute to the work of the Commonwealth Secretariat, now under the able leadership of Mr. Ramphal, formerly Foreign Minister of Guyana. Apart from the many activities of the Secretariat to maintain thhe diverse professional and institutional links among Commonwealth countries and its innovative role in expanding intra-Commonwealth cooperation, the Secretariat has taken very creditable initiatives in the field of economic cooperation among the Commonwealth countries. By international standards, the Commonwealth Secretariat's efforts to promote such cooperation have shown beneficial results at comparatively low cost. We in India have been glad not only to contribute to this cooperative programme, but have also benefited from it, especially in our trade promotion efforts.

Besides the deliberations of the conference, the great value of the gathering was that it provided an opportunity for informal and bilateral contacts with so many distinguished leaders of Commonwealth Governments. Apart from renewing my friendship with the British Prime Minister, Mr. Callaghan, I had purposeful discussions with the President of Bangladesh about our regional and bilateral problems. Both President Zia and I agreed that it was in our national and common interests that our relations should be built on the logic of good neighbourly cooperation. With the Canadian Prime Minister, we reviewed the problems which had come up in the way of our harmonious relations and agreed that within the framework of our respective national policies, efforts should be made so that beneficial cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of

nuclear science and technology can be resumed and the old tradition of Indo-Canadian friendship revived. The Prime Minister of Australia and I felt that from their respective geographic vantage points the Commonwealth Governments of Asia and the Pacific might with advantage establish closer contacts in a region where they share common interests. Similarly, from my conversations with President Kaunda of Zambia, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam of Mauritius, and other leaders of African nations on the one hand and the Prime Minister of Jamaica and the leaders of the Carribean on the other, I sensed that the Commonwealth countries cherished their relationships with India and expressed a firm desire to intensify and enlarge the established avenues of our cooperation. The Foreign Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, separately met many of his colleagues, and like myself came away with the impression that every Commonweath partner sought not merely to maintain but to strengthen its relations with the new Government of India. In his Conversations he also covered many important issues concerning our bilateral relations with various Commonwealth countries.

This visit also provided me with opportunities to meet a large number of representatives of the Indian community resident in the United Kingdom and also of the world press and media. Everywhere a new kind of interest in India was now evident. Whether it was the Indian community or the media, there is a feeling of renewed faith and expectation from democratic India. In the largely attended meeting of the Indian community which was held in London on 12th June, on behalf of our people I responded with warmth to the dedicated and emotional interest which they have in the land of their birth. At the same time, I called upon them to be worthy of the traditions of this ancient land by winning respect through genuinely motivated efforts towards social adjustmet with the people of the country of their present domicile.

Sir, this visit vividly conveyed to me that almost every country sought not only the friendship of our country, but would, I believe, rejoice at our political triumph and our economic achievements. There was no Commonwealth country which, after understanding the policies to which the present Government is pledged, looks upon India with malice or indulges in any unwarranted criticism towards our national objectives. It is recognised that the policy of true non-alignment as enunciated and practised by us not only serves our interests but makes India a coveted partner in their own network of relationships and their view of a stable world order. However, we know only too well that the role we can play in the international forums will ultimately depend on our domestic strength and the progress we make towards economic, scientific and technological self-reliance.

As mentioned earlier, I met His Imperial Majesty the Shahanshah of Iran in Tehran. During the discussions, the Foreign Minister and I had the pleasure of meeting Prime Minister Hoveyda and Foreign Minister Khalatbari. Our discussions were wide ranging in scope and gave abundant proof of Iran's goodwill and the abiding vitality and potential of our collaboration. Moreover we agreed that our countries have shared interest in the stability and progress of the region to which we both belong.

Similarly, the stopover in Paris on the way back at the request of the President of France afforded to me another opportunity to discuss a number of issues of common interest. My conversations with President Giscard d'Estaing and Prime Minister Barre were extremely friendly and reinforced the prospects of our close and beneficial relations with France.

Questions relating to the use of nuclear energy in the context of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons were

[Shri Morarji Desai]

raised with me in many conversations. I had the opportunity of reaffirming our position, which had been made clear on many occasions, both in this country and outside, that we are interested in developing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes only.

Sir, we have wider options to develop beneficial relations with the community of nations than ever in the past. In the last three months since we assumed office, within the framework of the positive thrust of non-alignment, we have assured old friends of our abiding commitments and repaired estranged relationships, both near and far. We can claim that our neighbours have greater trust in our friendship and the subcontinent as a whole is less disturbed by tensions and more inclined to cooperation. The Commonwealth Conference and this trip abroad provided me with an opportunity to affirm to the leaders from all parts of the world that this Government of India, sustained in the exhileration of the trust of its people and inspired once again by the vision and idealism of Gandhiji, will be second to none in its commitment to a world at peace striving towards international social justice.

Altogether, this opportunity of meeting the Heads of more than thirty Commonwealth countries, the Shahanshah of Iran and the President and Prime Minister of France, proved that India commands great goodwill and respect in the international community.

12.58 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT *RE* RELINQUISHING OF OFFICE BY SHRI S. L. SHAKDHER, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF LOK SABHA AND APPOINTMENT OF SHRI AVTAR SINGH RIKHY AS SECRETARY, LOK SABHA.

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that Shri S. L. Shakdher, Secretary-General of Lok Sabha is relinquishing his office tomorrow morning on his appointment as Chief Election Commissioner. He has been the Secretary-General of Lok Sabha for the last 13 years. He was in the Lok Sabha Secretariat as an officer of the House since 1950. His contribution in adaptation and changes in Parliamentary procedure with a view to help the efficient functioning of this House is commendable. I and my predecessors have always relied on his sound advice. His rich knowledge and wide experience in parliamentary field is symbolised by his treatise on "Practice and Procedure of Parliament", not to speak of his numerous other publications. His advice on matters of procedure was always available to Members irrespective of their party affiliations.

Shri Shakdher is a familiar and much liked figure in the parliamentary circle the world over. He has been a member of several parliamentary delegations and has availed of every occasion to acquaint himself first-hand with the developments in parliamentary processes and procedures in different Parliaments of the world. He has been associated with international parliamentary bodies like Inter-Parliamentary Union, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments. His unanimous election in 1973 as President of the Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments to which references were made in Lok Sabha on November, 12, 1973 is evidence of his popularity and standing among Secretaries-General of Parliaments of the world.

Shri Shakdher's appointment as Chief Election Commissioner comes as a fitting tribute to his distinguished service to the House as also the position he commands as an expert on constitutional matters and parlia-

mentary procedures. We shall miss him. We wish him well in his new assignment.

In appreciation of his long and devoted service to this House and following past precedent, I have appointed him as Honorary Officer of the House.

13 hrs.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): May I, Sir, join you in your well deserved appreciation of the services of Mr. Shakdher on the occasion of his demission of this office for an equally important office of the Chief Election Commissioner from tomorrow. I have been an active but silent witness for 20 years of his service to this House out of 27 years. It is a fairly long experience and I can say without any fear of contradiction that I found his work to have been in the true democratic spirit and he did his work to the satisfaction generally of the whole House.

It is not possible for anybody to please everybody. Therefore, we have to take it in that light, but even in that condition, I would say that he had been able to satisfy generally the whole House which is no small achievement. I have no doubt that he will do his work in the new office with equal credit and even more with all the rich experience that he has had here. And in many memoirs that he has written he will add one more, I am sure, on the Election Law. I have no doubt that he will do his work with the greatest credit. I wish him well and success in his new task.

SHRI YASHVANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with you and the Prime Minister for offering my felicitations to Mr. Shakdher whom I have seen sitting here as Secretary-General of Lok Sabha for many years. From my long association with this House I can say Mr. Shakdher is not only a scholarly person but an expert adviser on the matter of working of legislatures. He had been very silent in applying those rules and scholarly information and knowledge about the functioning of Parliament in practice. As we all know, the Parliament naturally reflects the mood of the country; sometimes it is calm and quiet; sometimes, it becomes tempestuous and this is a very natural thing, and during these moments he had always been a source of strength and consolation. To see this calm and quiet figure sitting here, it looked as if he had to help silently and at the same time, resourcefully the Speaker to control the House. That is a very important function that the Secretary General has to do.

Apart from that, he had been very objective. I don't think any Member had any hesitation in approaching him irrespective of his party affiliation. He had always been helpful to us all. I can say this from my experience when I used to sit on the side of the Treasury Benches and now I can say this when I am sitting on the opposite side. He has been helpful not only here but also on the other important side of the functioning of Parliament, that is, the working of Committees which is not popularly known because it is not reflected in the press; the press does not not know about it. The Committee work is a very essential part of Parliamentary activities and there we receive help from all officers, but particularly with Mr. Shakdher I have got personal experience on many Committees where we found his presence and advice very useful, and that is why I used the adjective that he is a very resourceful person. Well, I am sorry he is leaving because certainly it is a loss to Parliament and particularly to us. But it is a gain to the nation since he is going as the Chief Election Commissioner. I must say that it is a very appropriate selection for the office of the Chief

Election Commissioner because, I think, for the first time, at least as far as I remember, a person associated with legislative work is going to work as the Chief Election Commissioner, which is a very right thing.

Well, Mr. Shakdher, you have all our best wishes. Though we will miss you here, we will meet you on some other ground because, though you are changing the place and the position, you are certainly going to an assignment with which all Members of all legislatures are connected. So far, you were only connected with Members of Lok Sabha, but now you will be connected and concerned with the problems of all the people contesting the elections and desirous of becoming Members....

MR. SPEAKER: Not of voters?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I was coming to that point. Ultimately the test of success of a Chief Election Commissioner is the fact that the voter is satisfied. Therefore, it is a very important national institution, and the fact that an experienced person is going there is a matter of joy for us. Certainly it is a matter of satisfaction to him also that he is being promoted, I should say, or changed to a position which is very important. He has all my best wishes for all the success. Naturally, as I have said, we will be missing him, but it will be our national gain.

I supprt all the good words used by the Prime Minister and the Speaker.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully associate myself with the words of appreciation' expressed by you and the Prime Minister as well as the Leader of the Opposition, for Mr. Shakdher. My experience with him has not been very long, but I have seen that, whenever the House was in a turbulent mood, he always came to the rescue of the Speaker. That is a very big qualification which he has demonstrated, and this shows that the special capacity which he has got to help the Speaker in tackling situations is a very good qualification. I have also seen Members quoting him as an authority during debates, quoting from the book written by him jointly with Mr. M. N. Kaul. This shows that he is an authority on Parliamentary functioning and Constitutional aspects: he has acquired and developed this knowledge through so many years of experience and by his personal qualities. I hope that, in his new assignment, he will maintain perfect impartiality which is expected of the Chief Election Commissioner—because the Chief Election Commissioner is faced with the claims and counter-claims of many rival political parties—and that he will play his role in his new assignment more effectively. With this hope and confidence, I again express my appreciation to him. It is a loss for us that we shall not be able to maintain our daily association with him here, but I hope our association will be maintained in another form after he takes over his new assignment.

I express my appreciation of his services once again.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): On behalf of my group, I associate myself with all the sentiments expressed so far, and I would like to mention particularly how Mr. Shakdher has always been of the greatest help to new and young Members of Parliament. He helped them come into the main stream of Parliamentary procedures and also helped them to find out how they could derive the best from Parliament and fulfil their duties as Members of Parliament for their constituencies.

Another point I would like to draw attention to is that I have seen, again and again, how Mr. Shakdher has been most helpful to the panel of Chairmen because sometimes, particulaly in recent years, there have been very turbulent moments when the Chairman had been left to the mercy of the Members of Parliament while the Speaker was not present in the House and Mr. Shakdher has helped these Chairmen enormously to create order in the House again—as his book, which has been referred to, is becoming more or less a Bible for tackling those who raised points of order, and I am sure, it will continue to be so. In saying good-bye to him I would like to say that we are, in fact, not saying 'good-bye' but are only saying *'au revoir'* as we would be meeting him again.

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Manjeri): On behalf of my Party I would very much like to place on record our appreciation of the great service rendered by Mr. Shakdher in developing and strengthening the Parliamentary democracy of our country in the most difficult times. One has to accept and concede that Mr. Shakdher has effectively contributed to the efficient functioning of democracy in our country in the last fourteen years because of his rich knowledge of the Parliamentary system of democracy. No doubt, we all feel sorry that he is leaving us but we shall be seeing him again as the Chief Election Commissioner of our country. I am sure he will perform his task to the entire satisfaction of the people and supervise the future elections in our country as an impartial officer and thus protect the democracy of our country.

I wish him well and also thank him for all the services he has rendered to democracy. We shall also be missing him, as he is also a great friend of the Members of this Parliament.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I have the privilege of knowing Mr. Shakdher as an officer of this House for the last twenty years and as the Secretary-General for the last fourteen years, in which post he acquitted himself with great credit.

A reference was made to his book on the practice and procedure in Parliament. It may be compared to May's 'Parliamentary Practices' and it will be a useful guide for any student of history in regard to the evolution of Parliament in this country, and also for posterity in upholding the valuable Parliamentary practices that have been evolved in this House. Though the Emergency vitiated the entire atmosphere of the country, it hardly touched the fringe of the precincts of Parliament, and the credit for the same goes to Mr. Shakdher.

I had the privilege of accompanying Mr. Shakdher to various international conferences and I am grateful to him for the attention he paid to all the Members of Parliament. In Hong Kong, when I fell ill, with all interest and attention, he took special care about my health, and I am extremely grateful to him for the same. Wherever I have been, whether Hong Kong, Ottawa, Laos or Kaula Lampur, there were enquires about him and that is the greatest proof of the appreciation his work received, not only from this country but from other countries also. He is now going to shoulder new responsibilities and I am sure he will acquit himself equally well as the Chief Election Commissioner.

MR. SPEAKER: Consequent on the appointment of Shri Shakdher as Chief Election Commissioner, the post of Secretary-General of Lok Sabha has fallen vacant. I have gone through the records of service of Shri Rikhy and Shri Patnaik. Taking all factors into consideration, I have selected Shri A. S. Rikhy to officiate as Secretary of the Lok Sabha from 18-6-1977, i.e. tommorrow. The post of Secretary-General shall be redesignated as Secre-

[Mr. Speaker]

tary until further orders. The post of Secretary-General was created recently; now we shall have only Secretary. We shall consider it again later on, but Shri Rikhy will be Secretary from tomorrow onwards.

13.15 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1977-78—*Contd*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sukhdev Prasad Verma.

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद वर्मा (चतरा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बजट का समर्थन करते हुए सर्वप्रथम माननीय रेल मंत्री महोदय को बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने देश की जनता की आकांक्षाओं और आशाओं के अनुरूप बजट पेश किया है जो कि बदलती हुई परिस्थितियों में पूर्ण रूप से वास्तविक है । बजट को देखने से तसल्ली होती है कि वास्तव में अब रेल विभाग द्वारा योजनाबद्ध और सही ढंग से, शीघ्रता से काम होने वाला है । यह आशा न सिर्फ संसद् के सदस्यों को है बल्कि मैं अभी क्षेत्र के भ्रमण में आया हूं वहां की जनता को भी है । मैं रेल मंत्री को इस बात के लिए भी बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने बजट के द्वारा ऐसा दृष्टिकोण प्रस्तुत किया है कि रेल विभाग एक व्यवसायिक संस्था नहीं है बल्कि यह देश के विकास में एक बहुत बड़ा योगदान करने वाला संस्थान है । जहां रेल विभाग इस दृष्टिकोण पर आगे बढ़ कर काम करे वहां उसे इस बात को भी ध्यान में रखना चाहिए कि इसमें जो पूंजी लगी है उसका ह्रास न हो बल्कि शनैः शनैः उसकी वृद्धि हो और विकास के कार्य भी साथ साथ चलते रहें । मंत्री महोदय को इस बात का ख्याल रखना चाहिए ।

13.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

हिन्दुस्तान जैसे बहुत बड़े देश में रेलों का बहुत महत्वपूर्ण स्थान है । भारत संसार के बहुत से देशों से पिछड़ा है । इसका कारण यह भी है कि इस देश के बहुत से हिस्से ऐसे पिछड़े हुए इलाके के हैं जहां पर कि लोग आज तक रेल नहीं देख पाये हैं । उन इलाकों में विकास की गति बड़ी धीमी है । इसलिये माननीय मंत्री जी को चाहिए कि रेलों का इस तरह से विस्तार हो जिससे कि देश के पिछड़े इलाकों की तरक्की हो सके । वे रेलों के विस्तार की ऐसी योजना बनायें जिससे किसी संसद् सदस्य को या राज्य सरकार को उनसे अपने इलाके में रेल के विस्तार की मांग न करनी पड़े । मैं समझता हूं कि नयी परिस्थितियों में हमें पुरानी परम्पराओं को बदलना चाहिए । हमें सारे देश की बृहत रूप से ऐसी योजना बनानी चाहिए जिससे सारे देश में वास्तविकता के आधार पर रेलों का विस्तार हो, जरूरत के अनुसार रेलें बिछायी जाएं ।

अगर इस तरह की योजना रेल मंत्रालय या रेलवे बोर्ड के पास रहेगी तो उसी के आधार पर इसका काम चलता रहेगा और हर एक को यह पता रहेगा कि इतने दिन के अन्दर उसके यहां काम होने वाला है और बार बार जो इस तरह की मांग की जाती है विभिन्न सदस्यों की ओर से कि उनके यहां ये ये लाइनें होनी चाहियें उस में बड़ी कमी आएगी । सारे देश के जो पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं, आर्थिक सामाजिक, तथा अन्य दृष्टिकोणों से उन्हें विकसित करने के लिए एक योजना सारे देश के लिए बननी चाहिये रेलवे विभाग की ओर से और उस में यह अंकित रहना चाहिये कि इस प्रायमिकता के मुताबिक काम चलता रहेगा चाहे कुछ भी हो और काम रुकेगा नहीं तो लोगों को शिकायत करने का मौका नहीं रहेगा ।

रेलें देश के विकास में बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका अदा कर सकती हैं । कई इलाके ऐसे हैं जो बहुत पिछड़े हुए हैं । इस सम्बन्ध

में मैं बिहार और विशेषकर बिहार में छोटा नागपुर जो एक आदिवासी क्षेत्र है उसकी चर्चा करना चाहता हूं। वहां पर जंगल हैं, पहाड़ हैं, वहां पर खनिज पदार्थों की भरमार है, लकड़ी वहां बहुतायत से मिलती है । वह इलाका न सिर्फ बिहार का बल्कि सारे हिन्दुस्तान का सब से पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है। उस इलाके में मेरा क्षेत्र चतरा भी आता है। चतरा हजारीबाग जिले में और पांकी और लातेहार पलामू जिले में ये दोनों छोटानागपुर के इलाके हैं । वहां खनिज पदार्थ बहुत हैं, एल्यूमिनयम है । पलामू जिला तो जंगलों से भरा पड़ा है । कोयला हजारीबाग के इलाके में, चतरा में बहुत होता है । इसका विकास नहीं हो पा रहा है क्योंकि वहां रेलवे लाइन नहीं है । इसलिए मेरी प्रार्थना है कि ऐसे इलाकों की ओर आपका सब से पहले ध्यान जाना चाहिये ।

पांच छः साल पहले दो लाइनों का सर्वेक्षण हुआ था । गया से सरघाटी चतरा होते हुए चन्दवा में मिलाने का और दूसरा बीहटा से सरेघाटी चतरा होते हुए चन्दवा में मिलाने का। मैं प्रार्थना करता हूं कि इन दोनों में से किसी एक लाइन को अपने हाथ में अविलम्ब लेना चाहिये । ये ऐसे क्षेत्र हैं जहां के लोगों ने अभी तक रेलवे की लाइन को नहीं देखी है, रेल का इंजन नहीं देखा है । यह लाइन ऐसे इलाके से हो कर जाएगी जोकि खनिज पदार्थों का भंडार है, वहां के लोगों में बेरोजगारी व्याप्त है, वह अविकसित इलाका है, बहुत गरीब वहां के लोग हैं और वे तरह-तरह से परेशान हैं । अगर आपने वहां लाइन दी तो उनको विकास करने का मौका मिलेगा। ऐसी महत्वपूर्ण लाइन को प्राथमिकता देकर आप को हाथ में लेना चाहिये और अविलम्ब इसको पूरा करना चाहिये ।

एक और रेलवे लाइन की ओर मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । इस लाइन की एक लम्बे अर्से से चर्चा होती आई है । जब श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र रेल मंत्री थे तब के अगर आप उनके बजट भाषण को देखेंगे तो 1975–76 के बजट में उन्होंने घोषणा की थी कि बख्तियारपुर से राजगीर तक जो रेलवे लाइन गई है उसका विस्तार बोध गया तक किया जाएगा। उसका सर्वेक्षण भी हुआ था । राजगीर और बोध गया विश्व के ख्यातिप्राप्त स्थान हैं । आप जानते ही हैं कि लाखों लाख पर्यटक राजगीर और बोध गया आते हैं लेकिन दोनों का आपस में रेल सम्बन्ध न होने के कारण यात्रियों को बड़ी असुविधा होती है । दूसरे देशों के बौधिष्टों ने भी मांग की हैं कि जो यात्री बोध गया आते हैं वे ही राजगीर भी जाते हैं और दोनों में रेल सम्बन्ध स्थापित नहीं हुआ है । इस बजट भाषण में उसकी चर्चा नहीं की गई है । पांचवीं लोक सभा में जब मैं इसका सदस्य था मेरे एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में मंत्री महोदय ने बताया था गतवर्ष बोध गया लाइन का सर्वेक्षण बहुत तेजी से प्रारम्भ हो गया है । लेकिन अब देखने को नहीं मिल पा रहा है कि कुछ काम हुआ या बन्द पड़ा है । इस प्रकार की जो घोषणायें होती हैं उनकी अवहेलना नहीं होनी चाहिये । मंत्री महोदय को उसकी ओर अवश्य ध्यान देना चाहिये और ध्यान देते हुए राजगीर लाइन का बोध गया तक का विस्तार करने का आदेश देने की कृपा करनी चाहिये । मैंने पत्र भी लिखा है, और आप को जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि बरवाडीह से चिरमिरी तक लाइन बढ़ाने के लिये द्वितीय महायुद्ध के वक्त में सब काम हो गया था, पुल आदि बन गये थे लेकिन इतना काम होने के बाद भी वह लाइन नहीं बनी। इस लाइन के बन जाने से गोमोह से बम्बई जाने में 250 मील की दूरी कम हो जायगी। इस तरह से किसी काम को बीच में रोक देना रुपये का दुरुपयोग है ।

[श्री सत्यदेव प्रसाद वर्मा]

भ्रष्टाचार को दूर करने और प्रशासन में सुधार लाने की आप ने बात की है, बड़ी अच्छी बात है । रेल मंत्री जी समाजवादी और गांधीवादी विचारधारा में आस्था रखते हैं, रेलवे के अन्दर यह देखा जाता है कि भ्रष्टाचार ऊपर अधिक होता है नीचे कम, लेकिन पकड़ा नीचे के कर्मचारियों को ही जाता है । अगर आप ऊपर के लोगों में फैले भ्रष्टाचार को रोक सकें तो नीचे के स्तर पर अपने आप बन्द हो जायेगा । आप देखें कि चीजों की खरीद होती है, उसका आप मूल्यांकन करें तो पायेंगे कि बड़े अधिकारियों में भ्रष्टाचार काफी फैला हुआ है । माल की खरीद में काफी भ्रष्टाचार होता है । जो छोटे कर्मचारी हैं क्या वह देखते नहीं हैं ? जरूर देखते हैं और उसका बुरा असर उन लोगों पर पड़ता है । इसलिये भ्रष्टाचार मिटाने के लिये आपको ऊपर से चलना पड़ेगा और इस तरह के गलत कामों को एक नीति बनाकर बन्द करना होगा, नीचे के स्तर पर अपने आप भ्रष्टाचार समाप्त हो जायेगा ।

आपने रेलवे बोर्ड के संगठन के बारे में कहा, अच्छी बात है । इसी तरह से पावर के विकेन्द्रीकरण का जो निर्णय लिया है वह भी अच्छा है । लेकिन जब पावर के विकेन्द्रीकरण की ओर जा रहे हैं तो उसी के साथ कर्त्तव्य का भी निर्धारण होना चाहिये कि जिसका काम है वह समय पर पूरा हो और उन के आचरण, कार्य-प्रणाली का असर सिर्फ उन तक सीमित न रहे बल्कि ठीक ढंग से समस्त कर्मचारियों पर पड़े । आपने यह भी अच्छा काम किया है कि जिनका सेवा काल समाप्त हो गया है उन को ऐक्सटेंशन नहीं दिया जायेगा, या जिनका सेवा काल समाप्त हो गया था और उन की अवधि को बढ़ा दिया गया था पूर्व सरकार द्वारा, उस को भी बन्द कर दिया है । मेरा निवेदन है कि जिन ऐसे कर्मचारियों की सेवायें बढ़ायी गयी हैं उन को आप तुरन्त रिटायर कर दीजिये जिस से नीचे के लोगों को आगे बढ़ने का मौका मिल सके ।

रेलवे में सामान की चोरी रोकने के लिये आर०पी०एफ० है, लेकिन फिर भी चोरियां होती हैं । इसमें सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता है, और सुधार लाने की कोशिश भी की है । लेकिन अब तक का अनुभव यही है कि जो रक्षक है वही भक्षक हो जाता है । इसलिये इस फोर्स के कार्य की देख-भाल करने के लिये एक सजग और चरित्रवान उच्च अधिकारी की जरूरत है । जो एक एक स्थान पर आर०पी०एफ० के लोगों ने चोरी के अड्डे बनाये हुए हैं उन को तोड़ना होगा । अगर इस दिशा में सीधा से काम नहीं करेंगे तो जो प्रभाव आप का पड़ने वाला है वह कम हो जायेगा ।

मैं अपने जिले के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहता हूं, ओवर-ब्रिज की चर्चा चली है । मुझे याद है, 1967 में जब परम आदरणीय जगजीवन बाबू रेल मंत्री थे तो वह गया में एक दौरे पर गये थे । गया से टिकारी रोड जाने के लिये गया रेलवे स्टेशन से सटे हुए दक्षिण में बंगल में एक रेलवे क्रासिंग है । उस पर दो-तीन घंटे तक लोगों को रुकना पड़ता है । उस समय उनको भी वहां दो-तीन घंटे तक रुकना पड़ा और उन्होंने स्वयं उस चीज को देखा । लोगों ने वहां पर ओवर ब्रिज की मांग की तो उन्होंने 1967 में ही घोषणा कर दी कि वहां पर ओवर ब्रिज बनाया जायेगा । लेकिन उस समय की गई घोषणा पड़ी है लेकिन वह कहां पड़ी है, यह पता नहीं चलता है । मैं चाहूंगा कि जहां जहां ओवर ब्रिज का प्रश्न है उस ओर मंत्री महोदय ध्यान दें क्योंकि ये बड़े बाधक हैं, इनमें समय का ही प्रश्न नहीं है, बल्कि रोगियों आदि को ले जाने का प्रश्न भी बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण है । अगर ये ओवर ब्रिज हों तो रोगियों और आवश्यक वस्तुओं, एसेन्शियल कमोडिटीज को ले जाने में बाधा नहीं होगी । रेलवे स्टेशनों पर मैंने देखा है कि इस पार और

उस पार दोनों तरफ गांव हैं, लेकिन इस पार से उस पार जाने के लिये रास्ता नहीं है। यह बहुत गलत है, इन सब चीजों की तरफ ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये।

बिहार में फतुआ से इस्लामपुर और आरा से सहसराम लाइट रेलवे हैं। इन दोनों की व्यवस्था बड़ी खराब हो रही है। इनका प्रबन्ध अभी जिला बोर्ड के हाथ में है, मेरा अनुरोध है कि इसको अपने कंट्रोल में लीजिये। इससे जनता को भी लाभ होगा और रेलवे कर्मचारियों को भी लाभ होगा। इन लाइनों को बड़ी लाइन में परिवर्तन करना चाहिये। बोर्ड के पास साधन नहीं हैं इससे काफी परेशानी उठानी पड़ रही है, इसलिये उससे व्यवस्था सरकार द्वारा अपने हाथ में लेने पर ही अच्छी व्यवस्था हो सकेगी।

श्री राम नरेश कुशवाह (सलेमपुर) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सबसे पहले रेल मंत्री जी का आभार प्रदर्शित करता हूं कि उन्होंने पूर्वी जिलों में जो योजनायें थीं, उनको पूरा करने के लिये कदम बढ़ाया है। लेकिन जिस गति से काम हो रहा है, उसी गति से होगा तो मैं समझता हूं कि उसमें काफी विलम्ब होगा और पूर्वी जिले पिछड़े के पिछड़े, ज्यों के त्यों रह जायेंगे।

एमरजेंसी में जिन कर्मचारियों को निकाला गया था, उसमें से काफी कर्मचारी अभी भी बहाल नहीं हुये हैं जब कि बार-बार मंत्री जी ने कहा कि जो हड़ताल में और एमरजेंसी के दौरान कर्मचारी निर्दोष थे, और निकाले गये हैं, उनको बहाल कर दिया जाएगा।

रेलवे में गोरखपुर में इतना भ्रष्टाचार छाया हुआ है कि जिसका कोई हिसाब नहीं है। जितने अधिकारी हैं, उनके पास इतनी फालतू कारें हैं कि जहां वे रेल से जा सकते हैं, वहां रेल से नहीं जाते हैं, बल्कि स्टाफ कार से जाते हैं। वे लोग बड़का गांव, भाटपार, नोनापर स्टेशनों के बीच जाते हैं जहां रेल से जा सकते हैं लेकिन वे कार से जाते हैं। वह गोरखपुर से महरोना होकर भैरवा जाते हैं। यह बार-बार होता है और हर अधिकारी कारों का दुरुपयोग इस प्रकार से कर रहा है। कर्मचारियों के साथ उनका व्यवहार बहुत अच्छा नहीं है। वे कर्मचारियों के प्रति उपेक्षा और बदले की भावना से काम कर रहे हैं।

एक बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि निर्माण भत्ता उन कर्मचारियों को मिलता है जो नये निर्माण का काम करते हैं अथवा नये और पुराने दोनों करें। केवल पुरानी लाइन को नई में बदलने पर नहीं मिलेगा। गोरखपुर के रेल कर्मचारी दोनों काम कर रहे हैं, इसलिए उन्हें निर्माण-भत्ता मिलना चाहिये, लेकिन उनको नहीं मिलता है। इतना ही नहीं, "सी" ग्रेड का नगर होने के कारण उन को भत्ता अवश्य ही मिलना चाहिये, लेकिन उन को नहीं मिलता है। गोरखपुर के चीफ इंजीनियर और वित्त सलाहकार ने इसको मंजूरी दे दी है, लेकिन चीफ पर्सोनेल आफिसर ने इसमें गड़बड़ कर दी है और अब मामला बोर्ड में लटका हुआ है। जब चीफ इंजीनियर और वित्त सलाहकार दोनों इस बारे में निर्णय करने के लिए सक्षम हैं, तो कोई जरूरत नहीं है कि इस मामले को बार्ड में लटका दिया जाये।

वहां कुछ नियुक्तियों में भी बड़ी गड़बड़ी की गई है। अपने चहेते लोगों की नियुक्ति के लिए परीक्षा का पेपर ऐसा बनाया गया, जिसका उस पद से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं था। फिर एक ऐसे आदमी को चुना गया, जिसने कुछ दिनों बाद कह दिया कि मैं यह काम नहीं कर सकता हूं। जो आदमी अक्षम था, उससे पूछ कर पर्चा बनाया गया कि तुम क्या लिख सकते

[श्री राम नरेश कुशवाहा]

हो और क्या नहीं लिख सकते हो । पद सम्भालने के बाद उसको काम करने से इन्कार करना पड़ा, क्योंकि वह काम नहीं कर सका ।

छोटी लाइनों के बड़ी लाइनों में परिवर्तन से कई पुल खाली हो रहे हैं । अगर उन पुलों को स्थानीय निकायों को दे दिया जाये, तो उन्हें सड़क के पुल बनाया जा सकता है और काफी दिनों तक उन्हें उपयोग में लाया जा सकता है ।

मेरा क्षेत्र तीन हिस्सों में विभाजित है । छोटी गंडक उसको एक जगह बांटती है । बिहार की सीमा और छोटी गंडक के बीच में जितना क्षेत्र पड़ता है, जिसमें भाटपार एसेम्बली कांस्टीट्युएन्सी और सेलमपुर कांस्टीट्युएन्सी का कुछ भाग है, वह पूरे का पूरा क्षेत्र नोआखली कहलाता है और वहां जाने का कोई साधन नहीं है। फिर घाघरा और छोटी गंडक के बीच का हिस्सा है । देवरिया का एक हिस्सा घाघरा के उस पार पड़ता है। वहां जाने का कोई साधन नहीं है । अगर रेल का पुल दे दिया जाये, तो उसको सड़क का पुल बनाया जा सकता है और सड़क यातायात प्रारम्भ हो सकता है । उससे बिहार के लिए छोटे से छोटा रास्ता मिल सकता है और देवरिया होते हुए वाराणसी के लिए भी रास्ता बन सकता है ।

रेलवे हड़ताल के समय जो तथाकथित वफादार कर्मचारी थे, उन्हें विशेष वेतन-वृद्धि दी गई और हड़तालियों को निकाल दिया गया । वफादार कर्मचारियों की वेतन-वृद्धि अब भी ज्यों की त्यों चालू है । जिन हड़ताली कर्मचारियों की बहाली हो रही है, उन को यह निरन्तर घाटा हो रहा है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय इस बारे में क्या कर रहे हैं ।

रेलों में बिना टिकट वालों के साथ जो झगड़े-फसाद होते हैं, और कभी-कभी बड़े उपद्रव खड़े हो जाते हैं, वह सारी गड़बड़ी छात्रों की वजह से है । छात्रों और रेलवे में एक अघोषित युद्ध चल रहा है । छात्र टिकट नहीं लेते हैं और रेलवे बिना टिकट वालों को छोड़ती नहीं है । छात्रों को होस्टल और पढ़ने की सब सुविधायें देना सरकार का काम है । इसलिए मेरा सुझाव है कि प्रधानाचार्य के सर्टिफिकेट के आधार पर छात्रों पर घर से पढ़ने के स्थान तक आना-जाना फ्री कर दिया जाये, ताकि उनका रेलवे स्टाफ के साथ झगड़ा-फसाद न हो, और छात्रों के साथ दूसरे यात्री भी बिना टिकट यात्रा न कर सकें और झगड़ों में शरीक न हों। ऐसा करने पर रेलवे के टिकटों की बिक्री बढ़ेगी, झगड़े भी खत्म होंगे और छात्रों की अशान्ति भी नहीं होगी । इससे रेलवे के अधिकारियों का जो झगड़ा छात्रों के साथ चला करता है वह भी समाप्त हो जायेगा ।

इधर गाड़ियां बराबर लेट चल रही हैं और मुझे यह पता लगा कि यह अधिकारियों की वजह से लेट चल रही हैं, कर्मचारियों की वजह से नहीं । अब यह कैसे लेट चल रही हैं, क्या हो रहा है, कहां गड़बड़ी है, इसका पता लगा कर इस गड़बड़ी को दूर करना चाहिए ।

रेलवे में जहां तक हिन्दी के उपयोग का सवाल है वह जनता सरकार के जमाने में घटी है । इतना ही नहीं है पंडितजी के जमाने में गोरखपुर का एक रेल अधिकारी यहां हिन्दी अधिकारी बन कर आया था । उसको प्रोमोशन की जगह पर दूसरे को प्रोमोट कर दिया गया । वह फिर यहां से वापस गया क्योंकि बोर्ड के लोगों को वह बार बार तकाजा किया करता था कि काम हिन्दी में हो । इसलिए बोर्ड के लोग उससे नाराज हैं और उसका खामियाजा आज

भी वह भुगत रहा है । मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि हिन्दी अधिकारी के साथ और हिन्दी के साथ जो सौतेला व्यवहार हो रहा है उसे दूर करने की मंत्री महोदय कृपा करें। एक चीज मैं यह कहना चाहता हू कि केवल इस नाम पर कि अंग्रेजी के स्थान पर ठीक ठीक हिन्दी का शब्द नहीं मिलता इसलिए अंग्रेजी चलाई जाये, यह बात गलत है । मैं कहता हूं कि जहां ऐसी बात है वहां अंग्रेजी का शब्द ही देवनागरी लिपि में लिखा जाये और भाषा देवनागरी या हिन्दी हो तो क्या हर्ज है ? केवल इस नाम पर कि हिन्दी में ठीक टर्म नहीं मिलता इसलिए अंग्रेजी चलायी जाये यह कोई अच्छा काम नहीं है । जो लोग रेलवे में हिन्दी के अन्दर काम करते हैं उनको हतोत्साहित न करके प्रोत्साहित करने की कृपा करें ।

रेलवे लगभग 100 साल पहले बनी है । इस बीच बहुत से नये गांव बस गये, बहुत से छोटे गांव कस्बे के रूप में आ गए और बहुत से छोटे कस्बे शहर के रूप में आ गए हैं । लेकिन आपने जो नियम बना रखा है वह वही पुराना है । जो ढाले जब रेलवे लाइन बनी थी उस समय बनाए गए थे वही रहेंगे, नए आप नहीं बनाएंगे । अगर दूसरा ढाला बनाएंगे तो वहां के लोगों को आधा खर्चा देना पड़ेगा । इतना पुराना नियम जब से रेलवे लाइन बनी उस समय का बना हुआ, उसी को तब से अब तक आपने कायम रखा है । उस में परिवर्तन कीजिए और नए ढाले जहां आवश्यकता है वहां बनवाइए । देवरिया नगर का पूर्वी ढाला जो है वहां घंटों सवारियों को रुकना पड़ता है, वहां आप एक ओवर ब्रिज बनाइए । नोनापारी स्टेशन जो भटनी और घाटपार के बीच में है उसके पश्चिम में आप एक ढाला बनवाइए जिससे गांव के लोगों को आने जाने का रास्ता मिले वरना आप बड़ी लाइन बना रहे हैं तो लोगों का आना जाना दूभर हो जायगा और लोग अपनी खेती बाड़ी का काम नहीं कर सकेंगे । रेलवे के अन्दर ऐसी समस्याएं ढाला बनाने की हर जगह हैं । मेरा निवेदन है कि जहां जहां इसकी जरूरत है, जहां पुराने गांव बड़े हो गए हैं या नए गांव बस गए हैं वहां आप ढाला बनवाने की कोशिश कीजिए । ऐसे स्थानों पर निश्चित रूप से ढाला बनवा देना चाहिए ।

रेलों में जो आपने जनता गाड़ियां चलाने का फैसला किया है, मैं आशा करता हूं कि अगली बार जब आप बजट पेश करेंगे तो देश की रेलों में केवल एक ही जनता क्लास रहेगी ।

दूसरा निवेदन मेरा यह है कि गोरखपुर से बड़हलगंज और दोहरीपाट को रेलवे लाइन से मिला दिया जाये तो यह पूरे का पूरा क्षेत्र मऊ से सम्बन्धित हो जायेगा । नहीं तो बहुत बड़ी दूरी तय करनी पड़ती है । साथ ही दोहरीघाट से बेलथरा रोड होते हुए सिकन्दरपुर और सिकन्दरपुर से बांसडीह होते हुए सुरेमनपुर को मिला दिया जाय तो बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश का काफी संबंध स्थापित हो जायेगा । इस क्षेत्र में बहुत दूर तक रेलवे लाइन नहीं है, उसकी भी पूर्ति हो जायेगी ।

रेलवे में भीड़ बहुत अधिक हो रही है । बराबर गाड़ियों में कुछ न कुछ पैसेंजर छूट जाते हैं और जो चढ़ जाते हैं उनका कोई ठिकाना नहीं है कि रात भर या दिन भर चलने के बाद भी बैठने की जगह मिलेगी या नहीं । इसलिए अधिक से अधिक सवारी डिब्बों का इंतजाम होना चाहिए ।

अगर सवारी डिब्बों का इन्तजाम नहीं होगा तो भीड़ आबादी के साथ और बढ़ती जायेगी और आपके डिब्बे ज्यों के त्यों ही रहेंगे । तो इस तरह से काम नहीं चलेगा ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि गोरखपुर से छपरा की तरफ जाने के लिए 10 बजे रात से 12 बजे

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दिन तक कोई गाड़ी नहीं है जब कि वह मेल लाइन पर है। मैं आपके द्वारा निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जनता गाड़ी जो गोरखपुर से लूप लाइन होकर जाती है उसको मेल लाइन पर चलाने की कोशिश करें। साथ ही साथ एक शटल ट्रेन छपरा से सिवान तक चलती है उसको भटनी तक चलाएं ताकि यात्रियों को सुविधा हो सके और किसी समय भी उनको गाड़ी मिल सके। लोकल ट्रेन्स भी पहले बनारस से सिवान तक चलती थीं, अब वह केवल भटनी तक जाती है। उनको अगर सिवान तक बढ़ा दिया जाये तो समस्या हल हो सकती है। पूरे 12 घंटे तक उस क्षेत्र में कोई गाड़ी नहीं चलती है जब कि वह उत्तर प्रदेश का एक ऐसा हिस्सा है जो सड़क से कटा हुआ है और रेल से बड़ी असुविधा होती है क्योंकि किस प्रकार लोग आयेंगे और जायेंगे यह एक प्रश्नचिन्ह रहता है।

अन्त में मैं मंत्री महोदय को इस सन्तुलित बजट के लिए बधाई देते हुए आशा करता हूं कि पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के लिए वे जो कुछ कर सकते हैं वह जल्दी से जल्दी करेंगे ताकि पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में जहां यातायात के साधन न होने की वजह से उद्योग-धंधे नहीं लग सकते वहां पर यातायात के साधनों का विकास हो सके तथा उन क्षेत्रों का भी विकास सम्भव हो। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं।

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Arkonam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, only a few minutes ago when very deserving praise was showered on our retiring Secretary-General on the eve of his taking up the office of Chief Election Commissioner, from all sections of the House, a lot was heard about Parliamentary Practice. It is a very ancient and healthy Parliamentary Practice for Members to address the Chair. Evidently it should have been thought that the Chair includes Benches as well. In that true sense, I am addressing the Chair today. I would like to congratulate the Hon'ble Railway Minister for having presented a surplus budget. I hope his colleague, the Finance Minister, will follow in his foot-steps and favour us with a surplus General Budget this evening. But, Sir, I would have appreciated if the Hon'ble Minister has said a word of thanks to his predecessor in office and also perhaps to the previous Government for having left the Railway finances in a happy state. He has inherited a very happy state of Railway finances and I hope during his tenure he will present only surplus budgets and will not be in any difficulty for finding money for various useful projects. Because, Sir, it is given only to a very few to build a new. Ordinary mortals such as we are, it is given to us only to continue the work of others. Certainly you can try to improve upon previous performance and that should be the aim. But while thanks are due, they may be given. If high prices of cement can be attributed to the wickedness of the previous Government, certainly husbanding of resources so as to lead to the happy state of our Railway finances also should be attributed to the previous Government. If you look at the last year's budget, the budget surplus is only Rs. 8.98 crores whereas the revised surplus went up to Rs. 35.67 crores. It is expected that when the accounts are closed this surplus may even rise to Rs. 65 crores. With such a comfortable position, I should like the hon. Railway Minister not only to try to decrease his indetedness to the general revenues but also think in terms of affording relief, at least selective relief, in the matter of reducing the burden on passengers by way of reducing passenger fares. He may do it even later; it is not too late. I hope he will turn his thought in that direction. Because the instigators of the nightmare of 1974 are all contained in the present government itself. One should hope that there will be continued maintenance of good discipline in the railways because discipline is the *sine qua non* of any progress. But when we look at the recent spate

of accidents on railways, one gets into a doubt whether discipline is being properly maintained and whether attention is being directed to maintenance of strict discipline. Especially in the southern railway which has had its share of accidents, we find that on the same spot there were two accidents, one after another. This is something which should be looked into because we should not allow the confidence of the public in the railways maintaining an accident free service to be impaired. I hope the hon. Minister will pay heed to this warning.

Thought should also be given to the all round railway development of the southern region in view of the industrialisation that has already taken place and that is going to take place. I say all round development because you should direct your attention to more electrification and construction of new lines and conversion of smaller gauge into bigger gauge and also doubling the track to meet the growing traffic needs of that region. Till now I am sorry to say that there has been woeful neglect, I will not say wilful neglect, of the southern region. Let me give a few instances.

Very low priority has been accorded to electrification, especially in the southern region. One would have thought that the southern region being the farthest from the coal belt, electrification would have been undertaken even earlier in that region. One feels sorry to know that there has not been any electrification in the southern region. You may remember that when the late lamented Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Railway Minister and I was his humble deputy two decades ago, we sanctioned and started the electrification of the little stretch of the southern railway, Tambaram to Villupuram, less than 100 miles. I can tell the present Minister that all these 20 years not a meter of railway track of the southern region has been taken up for electrification. They have been very slow even in proceeding with projects already taken up. For instance, you are now engaged in electrifying the line between Madras and Triuvellore which is a very short distance. There is a demand in my constituuency, elsewhere in the State also, that this should be taken up to Arkonam which happens to be my constituency. And now even this small little work has taken such a long time. Very little money is being allotted to it. I had occasion to draw the attention of your predecessor last time that only Rs. 18,000 and odd was allotted for this electrification. I do not know what it meant. But then later on some more money was allotted and even then the work is proceeding very very slowly. Then there is the question of Madras-Vijaywada electrification that is being talked about for a long time. But nothing seems to have been done or at any rate nothing seems to be visible on the surface. Then the question of electrifying Madras-Bangalore line is also there. It is a thing which is devoutly wished for and very ardently prayed for by people of both the States—Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and perhaps Andhra Pradesh as well. So, Sir, when you consider this history of electrification in the Southern region, you will find that it has been a very dismal and disappointing affair and I hope the Railway Minister will wake up to it and do something.

Then construction of new lines. Again Mangalor-Hassen line which was sanctioned in our time, which was taken up 20 years ago—thanks to my friend late Mr. Srinivasa Mallaiya, ex-Member of Parliament. It is going on at a snail's pace and even now it has not been completed. The difficulty of terrain and other difficulties are there. I do not deny it. But the way in which this work has been going on certainly makes one despair of any expeditious job being done on the railways. Similarly, Tirunelveli-Nagercoil-Trivandrum line; its construction should be expedited. In this connection, a survey was undertaken long ago, because large areas of my constituency are without railway facility. The sur-

[Shri O. V. Alagesan]

vey was undertaken to lay a line between Chingleput and Chinnasalem which passes through the ore belt *via* Uttiramerur and Cheyyor. I do not know the state of that survey. I would ask the hon. Minister to either continue the survey or bring it uptodate as they say. Then, Sir, with the Kudremukh Iron Ore project coming up and the steel triangle of Salem, Hospet and Vishakhapatnam slowly emerging from out of the industrial horizon of the southern region, there is a lot to be done with reference to conversion metre gauge into broad gauge in that region. A uniform gauge should be thought of in order to cater to the present and much more future needs of this region. In this connection, the west coast railway has been talked of for a long time. But it has always been deferred. As long as 20 years ago, I remeber again, my late lamented friend Shri Srinivasa Mallaiya pleading with the then Railway Minister Shri Sastriji that even then it should be taken up. He used to bring a big map and show how these regions are without any railway connection. So I hope that some beginning will be made and the Present Minister will bestir himself in time to make a beginning in that direction. Again with the prospects of oil discovery in the eastern seas, the entire metre gauge of the Southern Railway from Madras to Tuticorin requires to be made into abroad gauge. These are all problems which are forcing their attention on you and I hope the Railway Minister will do well to think of them and plan in time and undertake these works on his own, during his tenure itself.

14 hrs.

I am very sorry to say that catering is hopeless. Sometime ago there was a practice of having dining cars attached to long distance and fast moving trains. That has been discontinued. The minister should consider whether this can be re-introduced.

I thank the hon. minister for visiting Arakonam, my constituency though it was in connection with the election propaganda for his party. I was not an eye-witness, but friends told me that several representations were given to him and he said, "All these things have to be done with the cooperation of the State Government. Unless you vote Janata into power in your State, I shall not be able to do anything." So saying, it seems he threw away the papers like this.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Let me correct the wrong impression even now. You know I am not capable of doing like this, even if I want to. All I said was, as far as over-head bridges are concerned, the State Government has to take the responsibility and I hope your State Government will take it. Of course, if our Government is there, our government will take that responsibility. So far as the railway's action is concerned, it will be independent of whatever form of government is there in the State. I never threw any paper; it is not in my habit.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I am satisfied with this. It is as it should be. It is good that Central Ministers go to all places because that gives an opportunity to the local people to represent their grievances first-hand and have redress at proper level. Your party happens to be in power in most of the States except a few. That should not be a motivation.

In Arakonam, you might have seen that the subway there is very old, narrow and inadequate for the growing traffic needs. It has been a bottleneck and a curse there. It has to be widened. I think the railways will have to do most of it and there may not be much for the State Government to do there. There is a road on both sides. I do not think an overbridge is feasible in that particular locality. But the subway can be easily widened and not at much cost. The railways may not have to call

upon the State Government to incur much expenditure. I request the minister to look into it.

It might have been brought to his notice that there is a very old engineering workshop in Arakonam which is not working efficiently. It is almost dilapidated. Neither the workers nor the officers are very much interested in it. I put a question whether this workshop was going to be upgraded in any sense, but I was given a blank 'No' as the answer. I am rather disappointed with that answer; you may appoint a small departmental technical committee to see whether you can get more out of the workshop. You are spending money on that and you may see whether you can get more work out of it by improving its efficiency or by diversifying the activities of that workshop.

Then, Sir, I ask for the Kovai Express to stop at Arkonam. When I asked him, the General Manager with good intentions gave a very lengthy reply, but the result was that he would not be able to do it. But later on I found that the Express stops at another station, namely, Jalarpet. It is important for the people in the town of Arkonam that the Kovai Express stops there so that they may go to Vellore, their district headquarters, and come back. Though it may take a few more minutes if the Express stops at Arkonam, you may consider that.

Similarly, in some cases, level-crossings have been planted very near the railway station where they are not useful. One such case was brought to my notice near about Arkonam. People of nearby village want it to be a little away from the station so that they may have access to the village. So, you may kindly do something in the matter.

श्री राम प्रसाद देशमुख (हाथरस) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे जो समय दिया है उसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं। रेलवे बजट पर बोलते हुए मैं कुछ छोटी छोटी बातों की तरफ मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। सब से पहली बात तो यह है कि स्टेशनों पर जो सामान बेचने वाले, नीलाम करने वाले, होते हैं वे लोगों को बहुत ठगते हैं, दूसरी क्लास के जो पैसेंजर्ज़ हैं उनका बहुत हरासमेंट करते हैं। इन आकशनर्ज़ की तरफ आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये और उन पर आपको चैक लगाना चाहिये। यह एक मामूली सी बात है लेकिन यात्रियों की दृष्टि से बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है।

जो चोरियां होती हैं उनकी तरफ भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये। कोल की बहुत चोरियां होती हैं। जहां वह रखा रहता है वहां न कोई शैड होता है और न ही लाइट का इंतजाम होता ह। इस तरफ भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

हाथरस से हाथरस जंकशन तक जो केवल चार किलोमीटर का फासला है गाड़ी चलती है। इस गाड़ी को या तो दिल्ली तक आप लाएं या अलीगढ़ तक ले जाएं तब तो कोई लोगों को लाभ हो सकता है वर्ना लाभ नहीं हो सकता है। इस वास्ते मेरी प्रार्थना है इसको अलीगढ़ तक या दिल्ली तक आना चाहिये।

जोगोमती एक्सप्रेस और विक्रमशिला एक्प्रेस ये अलीगढ़ पर नहीं रुकतीं। अलीगढ़ एक बहुत इम्पारटेंट स्टेशन है। वह एक किजिनेस सैंटर है। एक एजुकेशनल सैंटर बहुत बड़ा है जहां विदेशों तक से लड़के आकर पढ़ते हैं। टुंडला पर तो गाड़ियों को रोका जाता है लेकिन अलीगढ़ जो इतना महत्वपूर्ण स्टेशन है वहां रोका नहीं जाता है। वहां दुनिया की जानी मानी यूनिवर्सिटी उसको वहां पर रोकने की आप कृपा करें।

कांग्रेस सरकार ने जनता एक्सप्रेस को मद्रास स्टेशन पर रुकवाने की व्यवस्था

[श्री राय प्रसाद देशमुख]

कर दी थी । अब पता चला है कि पंद्रह तारीख के बाद वह वहां नहीं रुकेगी । मैं चाहता हूं कि जैसे पहले था इसको वहां आप रोकें । साथ ही एक और स्टेशन वहां पास में है सासनी जहां काफी फक्ट्रियां हैं और बहुत ज्यादा लोग आते जाते हैं । वहां भी इसको रुकवाया जाना चाहिये ।

ठेकेदारी का जहां तक सवाल है मैंने देखा है कि प्रथा हेरिडटरी हो गई है, हालांकि आप ने कहा है कि इस को बदला जायगा । हम सब का अनुभव है कि ठेकेदार लोग बहुत ही खराब किस्म का खाना यात्रियों को स्टेशनों पर देते हैं । इसलिये या तो आप इस सिस्टम को बदलें और जब तक नहीं बदलते तो कम से कम उस में सुधार करायें ।

आजकल कुछ समय से गाड़ियां लेट चलने लगी हैं । इमरजेंसी के दौरान यात्रियों को प्लेटफार्म पर परेशान करने की घटनायें बहुत कम हो गई थीं, कोई झगड़ा वगैरह नहीं होता था । लेकिन अब फिर वहां के लड़कों द्वारा, जो विश्वविद्यालय में पढ़ते हैं, वही पद्धति अपनायी जा रही है । आप को मालूम है कि अलीगढ़ यूनिवर्सिटी के लड़कों द्वारा हमारे राष्ट्रीय नेताओं का बड़ा अपमान होता था । अब वह लोग यात्रियों को परेशान करने लगे हैं इसलिये कुछ ऐसा प्रबन्ध आप करें जिस से वहां इस प्रकार के झगड़े न हों । मैंने स्वयं देखा है कि प्लेटफार्म पर मुसाफिरों को बहुत परेशान किया जाता है ।

आप ने बजट में हरिजनों की स्थिति में सुधार के लिये कोई प्रोवीजन नहीं किया है । आप ने कुछ सुविधायें दी हैं, लेकिन जो सब से कम वेतन पाने वाले सफाई कर्मचारी हैं उन के वेतनमान में आप ने वृद्धि नहीं की है । मेरी मांग है कि उनका वेतन बढ़ाया जाय जिससे अन्य जाति के लोग भी इस धन्धे में आयें । क्या वजह है कि सफाई का धंधा हरिजनों तक ही सीमित रहे । अगर आप तनख्वाह बढ़ाते हैं तो दूसरे लोग भी आयेंगे । साथ ही उन की ड्रेस अच्छी बना दीजिये ताकि हरिजनों में उत्साह हो और दूसरे लोग भी इस धंधे की तरफ आकर्षित हों । चाहे म्युनिसिपैलिटी हो, चाहे अस्पताल हों, या अन्य कोई संस्था हो सफाई का काम यह हरिजन बेचारे ही करते हैं । मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि यह काम क्या इन ही के जिम्मे हो गया है । क्यों नहीं आप उन को अच्छा वेतन और प्रोमोशन के एवन्यूज देते हैं जिस से दूसरी जाति के लोग भी इस काम को करें ? अगर आप ऐसा करते हैं तो अनटचेबिलिटी अपने आप खत्म हो जायगी ।

हमारे भूतपूर्व रेल मंत्री श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी ने कई गाड़ियां बनारस के लिये चला दी है । एक लखनऊ एक्सप्रस थी जो पहले लखनऊ तक ही जाती थी, उस को भी बढ़ा कर बनारस तक कर दिया है । नतीजा यह होता है कि लखनऊ से चलने पर सवारियों को बड़ी परेशानी होती है । लखनऊ से कोई गाड़ी ऐसी नहीं है जो दिन में दिल्ली के लिये चले । आप को इस में परिवर्तन करना चाहिये जिस से दिन में दिल्ली के लिये लखनऊ से यात्रियों को गाड़ी मिल सके ।

कुलियों का जहां तक सवाल है मैंने देखा है कि अलीगढ़ में उन को लोडिंग और अनलोडिंग का ठेका नहीं दिया जाता है । वह बेचारे केवल यात्रियों की मजदूरी पर डिपेंड करते हैं । मेरी मांग है कि लोडिंग और अनलोडिंग का उन को कोम दिया जाय जिस से कुछ पैसे उन को मिलते रहें ।

इसी तरह से गुड्स ट्रेन में बहुत चोरियां होती हैं । मैंने देखा है कि अलीगढ़ में काफी चोरियां होती हैं । कोई देखरेख माल गाड़ियों की नहीं होती है । चोरी करने वाले माल गाड़ी

को रोक लेते हैं और वहां से काफी माल उतर जाता है । इसलिय गुड्स ट्रेन्स पर सुरक्षा का प्रबन्ध हो ताकि चोरियां न हों ।

हमारे यहां एक फाटक का सवाल था जो कि बहुत दिनों से चला आ रहा था । उस पर एक ब्रिज बनाया गया । वहां पर इसकी कोई जरूरत नहीं थी, वहां जरूरत थी कि ट्रफिक चले, उसकी व्यवस्था हो । इस पुल पर कोई पैदल आदमी जाता ही नहीं हैं । यह इलैक्शन के दौरान इसलिये बनाया गया कि लोगों को पता लग जाय कि पुल बना दिया गया है । उससे कोई फायदा नहीं हुआ है । उस पर आदमी चढ़ते नहीं हैं, उनका सांस फूल जाता है । मैं चाहता हूं कि अण्डर ग्राउन्ड बनाय । अभी वहां ट्रैफिक का जमाव रहता है और हमेशा एक्सीडैंट होते रहते हैं ।

मैं यह निवेदन कर ा चाहता हूं कि लोगों के दिमाग में एक चीज यह आती है कि रेलवे में सबसे ज्यादा करप्शन है और यह रेलवे पुलिस में बहुत है । उन सब के वहां रहते हुए भी पेसेंजर का हैरेसमैंट होता है । जेबकतरे बहुत हैं, क्या वजह है कि उनको पकड़ा नहीं जाता है । सारे लोग परेशान होते हैं । आपको इसे देखना चाहिय कि पुलिस वालों का काम क्या हैं और आर० पी० एफ० करती क्या है । अगर किसी को पकड़ भी लिया जाता है तो छोड दिया जाता है । बहुत सी ऐसी घटनाएं होती रहती है. जिससे मुसाफिर परेशान होते हैं ।

जब कोई एक्सीडैंट हो जाते हैं तो उसमें मरे हुए व्यक्तियों की लाशों को कुलियों से उठवाया जाता है । इससे उनके दिमाग में यह बात पैदा होती है कि हम से लाशों को उठवाया जाता है । इसका उनको न कोई पसा मिलता है और न कोई एवज में मिलता है । एसी चीज उनके लिय अच्छी नहीं है । गवर्नमेंट इसके लिय कोई प्रबन्ध करे । इस समय जो उन लाशों को उठाने के लिय कुलियों को भेजा जाता है, इससे उनके मन में भावना आती है कि उनका भी जीवन है ।

अ त में मैं निवदन करूंगा कि कम से कम विक्रमशिला और गोमती ट्रेनों को वहां पर रुकवाने की कोशिश करें ।

श्री छविराम अर्गल (मुरैना) माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, रेल मंत्री जी ने जो बजट प्रस्तुत किया है, उसका समर्थन करने के लिये मैं खड़ा हुआ हुं ।

हमारा जिला मुरैना अनेक वर्षों से डाकू पीड़ित रहा है और वहां आवागमन के साधन उपलब्ध नहीं है । पहले यह सुविधाएं इसलिय नहीं दी जाती थीं, कि डाकुओं की वजह सें वहां काम हो नहीं पाते थे । इसी कारण यह इलाका हमेशा पिछड़ा रहा हैं ।

हमारे मुरैना जिला हैडक्वार्टर पर रेल जब वहां से गुजरती है तो बहुत देर तक लोगों को रुके रहना पड़ता है । कई बार मंत्रिगणों को भी वहां रुकना पड़ता है । अभी जार्ज फर्नानडिस साहब चुनाव के दौरान गय तो उन्हें भी वहां एक घ टे तक रुके रहना पड़ा । फिर भी इस ओर शासन का ध्यान नहीं गया है ।

14.18 hrs.

[SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO *in the Chair*]

ओवर ब्रिज के अभाव में आवागमन में काफी तकलीफ होती है । इसके साथ-साथ रेलव स्टेशन पर टिन शैड नहीं है और वहां पर यात्रियों को बरसात के टाइम में खुले मे रहना पड़ता है जिससे बहुत कठिनाई उठानी पड़ती है ।

मैं एक और समस्या की ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा । हमारे यहां शिवपुर से ग्वालियर होते हुए भिंड तक छोटी लाइन है । वहां पर तीन-तीन दिन तक गाड़ी

[श्री छविराम अर्गल]

अपने स्थान पर नहीं पहुंच पाती है। उसमें इंजन बहुत पुराना बाबा आदम के जमाने का लगाते हैं और वहीं ग्वालियर में ही चलने वाला इंजन खराब हो जाता है और गाड़ी खड़ी रह जाती है। उस लाइन के घाटे में चलने का एकमात्र कारण यह है कि वहां यात्री बिना टिकट चलते हैं और उन को रोकने के लिए कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। पहले डाकुओं के भय से कंडक्टर तक उस लाइन पर नहीं चलते थे। लोकनायक श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण ने उन डाकुओं का आत्म समर्पण करा दिया, लेकिन अभी भी वही सम या बनी हुई है।

मैंने मंत्री महोदय को एक पत्र लिखा है कि सवाई माधोपुर से मुरैना ग्वालियर और भिंड होते हुए इटावा तक एक ब्राडगेज रेलवे लाइन डाली जाये। उस रेलवे लाइन के आस-पास कई उद्योग स्थापित किये जा सकते हैं और उस डाकू-पीड़ित पिछड़े क्षेत्र का विकास हो सकता है। मंत्री महोदय ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि अभी वित्तीय साधनों के अभाव में ब्राडगेज लाइन

मेरा निवेदन है कि हजारों सालों से मुरैना जिला और चंबल संभाग डाकुओं से पीड़ित रहा है और अभी तक उस का विकास सम्भव नहीं हो सका है। अब जनता सरकार से जनता की कई अपेक्षायें और आकांक्षायें हैं। अगर जनता सरकार विकास के लिए आवश्यक साधन उपलब्ध न करा सकी, तो यह निश्चित है कि जनता बख्शेगी नहीं, और उस का वही हाल होगा, जो तीस साल बाद कांग्रेस का हुआ है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से विनम्र शब्दों में निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि कांग्रेस के लोग जो भाषा बोलते आये हैं, वह उसको छोड़ दें और विकास के कार्यों के लिए वित्तीय साधन उपलब्ध करायें।

आज रेलवे बोर्ड का क्या औचित्य है? मैं चाहूंगा कि उस को समाप्त किया जाये। उसकी कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। मैं ने देखा है कि रेल भवन में रेलवे बोर्ड के मेम्बरों के दफ्तरों में शहन्शाही ठाट-बाट हैं। वहां बहुत खर्चा हो रहा है। श्री मोरारजी देसाई ने कहा है कि हम कूलर्ज और एयर-कन्डीशनर्ज का उपयोग नहीं करेंगे। लेकिन रेल भवन में तमाम अनाप शनाप अपव्यय हो रहा है। रेलवे बोर्ड को समाप्त कर के काफी खर्च बचाया जा सकता है। रेलवे मंत्रालय इस काम को चला सकता है।

रेलवे विभाग में हरिजनों और आदिवासियों की बहुत उपेक्षा की गई है। प्रत्येक श्रेणी में उन के आरक्षण का कोटा पूरा नहीं किया गया है। मैं चाहूंगा कि मंत्री महोदय इस तरफ ध्यान दें और पिछले तीस सालों में कांग्रेस सरकार ने हरिजनों और आदिवासियों को जो झूठे आश्वासन दिये थे, जनता गवर्नमेंट उन को पूरा करे।

रेलवे में कई कर्मचारियों को पेन्शन की सुविधा नहीं दी जा रही है और उन के केस पेंडिंग पड़े हुए हैं। आपातकाल में कई कर्मचारियों को निकाल दिया गया था। अभी तक उन्हें पुनः सेवा में नहीं लिया गया है।

कांग्रेस गवर्नमेंट ने अपनी पार्टी के लोगों को 800 रेलवे पास दिये थे।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से चाहूंगा कि कांग्रेस पार्टी के आधार पर इन लोगों को पास मिले हैं, इन को तत्काल निरस्त करें।

एक माननीय सदस्य : वे खत्म हो गए।

श्री छविराम अगल : अभी खत्म नहीं हुए हैं।

प्रो० मधु दंडवते : जब डेट खत्म हो गई तो सब खत्म हो गए। आर्डर पहले ही चले गए हैं।

श्री छविराम अगंल : अगर खत्म हो गए तो बहुत अच्छी बात है। लकिन यह बात सही है कि अभी खत्म नहीं हुए हैं।

हमारा मुरैना जिला एक व्यापारिक मंडी है। यहां अनाज का व्यापार होता है। यहां कोई ट्रेन रुकती नहीं है। मैंने इस संबंध मे मंत्री जी को पत्र भी लिखा था। मध्य प्रदेश की छत्तीसगढ़ एक्सप्रेस विशेषकर मध्यप्रदेश के लोगों के लिए चलायी गई थी। यह चम्बल संभाग मुरैना उत्तरी क्षेत्र और राजस्थान के पास का जिला है। यहां छत्तीसगढ एक्सप्रैस गाड़ी रुकती नहीं है। उत्तर प्रदेश में ललितपुर एक बहुत छोटा स्थान है, वहां रुकती है, विदिशा एक छोटा स्थान है, वहां रुकती है लेकिन मुरैना में नहीं रुकती। मंत्री जी से मैंने बात की तो मत्री जीने कहा कि तीन महीने बाद इस पर विचार हो सकता है। लेकिन मेरे पास पत्र आया उस में यह लिखा था कि वे बड़ी तेजगाड़ियां हैं, इन को यहां रोकना संभव नहीं है। मैं यह बता दूं कि हमारे यहां मुरैना में पहले पंजाब मेल रुकती थी, उस को बाद में बद कर दिया गया। जब जगन्नाथ पहाड़ियाजी थे तो शोलपुर एक छोटा सा स्थान है वहां उन्होंने इसे रुकवाने का आर्डर करा दिया और मुरैना में बद करवा दिया। इस बारे में मैंने मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित किया था लेकिन वह अभी तक इस संबंध में कुछ कर नहीं सके हैं। इस के साथ साथ और भी कई गाड़िया हैं जिन का मुरैना में स्टापेज नहीं है। मैं चाहूंगा कि मंत्री जी इस पर विचार करें और इन गाड़ियों को चम्बल, संभाग के इस जिले में रोकने की कृपा करें।

रेलवे में जो कैंटीन के ठेके दिए जाते है ठेकेदार उन को दूसरों को बेच देता है। यह चीज समाप्त होनी चाहिए। आज देश में तमाम लोग बेरोजगार हैं। ग्रेज्युएट्स एम्प्लायमट स्कीम के तहत उन को रोजगार देने की एक योजना है। तो मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि ग्रज्युएट लोगों को केन्टीन के ठेके दें। अच्छा तो यह होगा कि रेलवे के ठेके अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जन जाति के लोगों को दिए जायें जिस से सैकड़ों और हजारों सालों से जो पिछड़ हैं उन को रोजगार मिल सकें। अभी तक उन की उपेक्षा की गई है।

हमारे यहां छोटी लाइन है। उन में पुराने इंजन हैं। वे इंजन बदले जाने चाहिएं अभी तक वे बदले नहीं गए हैं। कई जगह ऐसे इंजन पड़ हुए हैं जिन को वहां से ट्रांसफर कर के इन में लगाया जा सकता है। लेकिन उस की व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है।

पहले आगरा से हमारे यहां एक शटल गाड़ी चलती थी। वह बन्द कर दी गई है। आगरा से मुरैना लोगों का ज्यादा आवागमन होता है। इसलिए इस शटल गाड़ी की व्यव था फिर से की जाय जिस से लोगो आ जा सके।

मैं मुरैना से चुन कर आया हूं। मुरैना से दिल्ली आने के लिए, मुरैना में दो सीट का भी कोटा नहीं है।

[श्री छविराम अर्गल

अब जो गाड़ियां वहां पर आती हैं उन में जिला हेडक्वार्टर के लिए कम से कम कुछ व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए लेकिन उसकी कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैंने पत्र भी लिखा था लेकिन मंत्री जी ने आज तक उसका जवाब नहीं दिया।

सभापति महोदय, मुरैना डाकूग्रस्त जिला रहा है। मैंने वहां की कुछ समस्यायें मंत्री जी के सामने रखी हैं। हमारा निवेदन है कि सवाई माधोपुर और इटावा तक ब्राडगेज लाइन बनाई जाये। मुरैना में रेलवे क्रासिंग पर ओवर-ब्रिज की विशेष समस्या है। मुरैना जिला हेडक्वार्टर पर लोगों को आने जाने में बड़ी कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ता है इसलिए मुरैना में रेलवे क्रासिंग पर ओवर-ब्रिज शीघ्र बनाया जाये।

अन्त में मैं, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो बजट प्रस्तुत किया है उसका स्वागत करता हूं।

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the new Railway Minister, Mr. Dandavate, for presenting the Railway Budget in the House. In one respect, I find a departure from the budgets that were presented in the House before. He has reduced the price of the platform ticket. . . .

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: That is a very insignificant part.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: But I find it significant because up till now I have not seen in the Railway Budget any reduction in fares or freights or any other thing. This is the first time I find it. So, it is a welcome thing. At the same time, I also appreciate his views regarding the attitude of the authorities towards the railway employees. But I would have urged puon him to take immediate steps regarding de-casualisation. He has said nothing in his speech about it. I do not find anything in the Demands for Grants . . .

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have already said it in my reply to the Budget discussion. This is only a discussion on the Demands for Grants.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: If you have already taken any steps regarding this, I am thankful to you. This is a longstanding demand. The Railways being the biggest employer and the gigantic organisation where the largest number of casual labourers and contract labourers are employed, that thing should be looked into sympathetically.

Coming to certain other matters about the persons who were victimised during the Emergency and for the strike, there is an assurance that they would be taken back. So far as the Budget speech is concerned, I find that already that part is over and all the persons who were victimised for the strike have been taken back. But there were also certain temporary employees who were not confirmed. There are many such cases. I can send those cases to him. Their cases should also be looked into. During the Emergency period, certain demotions, stoppage of increments, etc. were there. These things must be looked into with due sympathy. I will at least expect this from the new Railway Minister.

Another aspect with which I think the Minister will agree is the permanency of the catering staff who serve meals in the trains. They are paid on commission basis. Even their kit, dress, that is supplied to them is not satisfactory. Their cases also should be looked into. Some sort of a phased programme should be drawn up to absorb them in the Railways as regular workers.

Apart from this, I have certain other things to mention. You have allocated some money for the broad-gauge line in that section of Martin Railway, that is, Howrah-Amta and

Howrah-Sheakhola, and a Calcutta paper has commented that it will take 30 years to be completed. I come from that area and I know the difficulties of the people. I will request the Railway Minister to visit that area. Some time back, one Minister visited that area and saw the people travelling on the roofs of the buses which is very risky. But still the people have to go for their business and this is happening, because the railway there had been wound up.

Every time assurances were given in this House that the broad-gauge line will be there and the people will have no difficulty. But from the budget speech as well as from the grants, I find that the provision that has been made is meagre and I do not know when this work will be completed. The Minister should satisfy the people how much time will be taken for the completion of those lines.

Another line called the Arrah-Shasaram Light Railway is there. The old company Martin is continuing there. Even the railway people who were working there were not getting their regular wages. They very often come to me and say that their wages must be guaranteed. I think the Minister will take care of this thing and do something for those employees and try to take over that line at least. That is not a very difficult thing for you to do. You can easily take it over and convert it into a broad-gauge line. That will be helpful.

Then there are some other railway lines at my place which connect link between Hooghly and Bankura. From time immemorial, that line is not being looked into and only one train in a day comes and goes. Either you wind it up or you convert it into a broad-gauge line. It was stated that by 1986 the underground railway will be completed, but the speed with which the railway is proceeding, people do not believe it. On the other hand, it is creating difficulties for the travelling public there, both vehicular traffic as well as the pedestrians. You must take urgent steps to expedite the matter which will be helpful both to the people as well as to the authority.

Then there are longstanding problems regarding certain railway crossings on which flyover should be constructed. Every time the railway comes forward with an explanation that if the State Government pays 50 per cent of the cost, then only the Railway Board can undertake that construction work. Every time I have stated here that the State Government will never come forward.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Now it will come forward.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: No, it is not possible. What is the source? You can collect the excise duty from tariwala and others. All the resources are with the Central Government. Why don't you spend that money for the very essential work? They can collect only sales tax and the excise duty, but all the resources are with the Central Government. So, you must take the responsibility of construction of those flyovers at least on the Highways. At least for the lines that pass through the highways, you must take the responsibility for construction of overbridges through which vehicles and public can pass, or you must make some other arrangement for construction of, sub-ways. To certain old subways I have drawn the attention of the railway authorities, particularly the General Manager, and I have also raised the matter in this House; certain sub-ways were built about a hundred years back at the time of inception of the railways; these subways are so narrow that no truck or car can pass through them; even people cannot pass through them. People have made representations

[Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya]

asking the authorities to see that the sub-ways are broadened to some extent. This work is not very expensive. I mentioned certain names here before also, and I do it again today: Konnagore, Sheoraphuly and Bandel. These are very congested areas, and some steps should be taken to broaden at least these sub-ways.

The approach roads to the stations are very narrow in many places, and people have complained many times as to why the railways are not taking the responsibility to broaden these approach roads to the stations. This is a very long-standing demand. I hope, the Railway Minister will be good enough to look into this matter.

There is only a single line in Katwa-Bandel section. There should be a double line. Everything is there. Why should electrification not be undertaken there? Similarly, Tarakeswar is a place of pilgrimage and is visited by thousands of people, but only a single line exists there. I would urge upon the Railway Minister to see that another line is laid in Katwa-Bundel section, so that more trains can come. Similarly, I would urge upon him to do the same thing in Tarakeswar section also.

Another point that I want to make is this. Hundreds of young boys have completed their apprenticeship course. Now, it seems that you are recruiting new ones. These boys have not been given a chance. I know, for some political reasons, a large number of young men who have completed their apprenticeship course have not been absorbed. The funniest thing is that they are all relations of railwaymen who have been serving the Railways for the last 15 or 20 years. In spite of this, these boys have not been absorbed. On the other hand, new hands are recruited in the railway workshops at Kanchrapara and Liluwa. The other day those young boys gheraoed me and asked, "Why are we not being given a chance? We have got the requisite qualifications; we have completed our apprenticeship course in the railways". I would request the hon. Minister to see that these boys who have completed their course, who have got the certificate from the appropriate authority as to their qualifications, are absorbed in the railways. That will be of great help not only to those boys but to the Railways also because they have learnt the jobs and all of them have had theoretical and practical training. So, these things must be looked into.

My last point is about the housing problem. At least in the Howrah Division I know there are hundreds of Commercial Clerks who have to go to distant places because they have not been provided with any houses or quarters near the place of work. So, some arrangement must be made at least to take up a phased programme for housing a maximum number of the employees, of whatever category they may be.

I once again request the Minister to see that these small problems are taken care of so that we may not have to bring them to the notice of the House.

SHRI B. P. MANDAL (Madhepura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I thank the Railway Minister for the progressive budget that he has presented. This budget is generally meant to bring good to the poorer sections of the society, but we have still to go a long way. Our Railway Minister is a veteran Socialist leader and Socialism has always contemplated a classless society. So, I at least, expect the Minister to bring about a classless railway system in our country. How this can be made possible is for him to consider, but the real step forward towards socialism will be taken only on the day there is a class less railway system in our country.

I come from the Kosi affected area of Bihar. The Kosi has always been

considered as the 'sorrow' of the country like the Yellow River of China. A lot of havoc has been wrought by the Kosi. All the roads and railways have been washed away and only one who has an idea of the Kosi River can realise the extent to which these people have suffered. Fortunately, for some time the late Mr. L. N. Mishra who hailed from my district, was the Railway Minister, and since it is the wearer who knows where the shoe pinches, he proposed to introduce some new lines in that area. But, unfortunately, he has been taken away from this world and some of the lines that were contemplated by him have not been started as yet. So, I must ask the Hon. Railway Minister to take note of the lines which Shri L. N. Mishra had proposed to build but which he could not complete as he has left the world. One line was from Beharlgunj to Simiri Bakhtiyarpur and one from Madhepura to Singeswar Ast and there are many other lines also. He had also contemplated the restoration of an old line from Nirmali to Bhaptiahi as it was washed away long ago. There is a line from Pratapgunj to Bheemnagar, apart from other lines. So I would request the Minister to kindly call for the file and see how many lines the late Mr. L. N. Mishra had proposed to build in the Kosi affected area of Bihar. The people of the Kosi area have remained the worst sufferers as the Kosi has always been known as the 'Sorrow of Bihar'—and, in fact, of the entire country. I would request him not to ignore this just because Mr. Mishra belonged to the Congress Party and was a Congress Minister. He had made some good proposals and these proposals should not be ignored.

I would like to draw the attention of the Railway Minister to the branch lines of the railways. On account of the increase in population, there is always over-crowding on these lines and the people travel even on the roofs of the railway compartments. I would request the Railway Minister to give due attention to the branch lines because the people in these regions can be called backward people.

Then, there is one particular railway station, Mithai, falling within my constituency. The southern side of the station is heavily populated and on the northern side of the station, a road passes. The villagers have to cross the railway line quite often. They have been requesting for a crossing over the railway line. When I was a Member of Parliament, Fourth Lok Sabha, in 1967, I had written a letter to the then Railway Minister, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, for providing a crossing over the railway line so that people crossing the railway line are not put to great difficulties. I would again request the Railway Minister now to provide for this crossing at Mithai railway station which falls in Saharsa district.

Only last month, perhaps in the Toofan Mail, there was an armed dacoity near Sasaram in our State. One and all passengers were looted and robbed. The dacoits entered the compartments, showed pistals and daggers and robbed all the passengers. I would, therefore, request the Railway Minister to provide some police guards for the protection of passengers as far as our State is concerned.

Lastly, during the Congress regimes, some committees like Railway Guards Committee and so many Consultative Committees, were constituted and undeserving persons were nominated to these Committees for political reasons. It is high time that these Committees were done away with. They are causing unnecessary expenditure to the public exchequer. If at all these are necessary, I would urge upon the Railway Minister that deserving persons should be placed in

[Shri B. P. Mandal]

these Committees and there should be no political considerations in this matter.

With these words, I would resume my seat and I hope, my suggestions will be looked into by the Railway Minister with due consideration.

14.55 hrs.

[SHRI S. D. PATIL *in the Chair*]

चौधरी बलबीर सिंह (होशियारपुर) : इस बजट के लिए मैं मंत्री महोदय को बधाई देता हूं। अंग्रेजों के राज में सरपलस रेल बजट हुआ करते थे। लेकिन इन पिछले तीस सालों में ये खसारे में बदल गए। लेकिन इस बार हमारे मंत्री जी ने मुनाफे का बजट पेश किया है। लेकिन इस में अभी बहुत कुछ करना है। जितना पैसा हमने रेलवे पर खर्च किया है अगर उस सारे पैसे का कमर्शियल मुनाफा लगायें तो वह 400 करोड़ से ज्यादा का होना चाहिए। तो हमें कमर्शियल ढंग से भी सोचना चाहिए। जो मुनाफा कमर्शियल ढंग से बनता है वह बने। हमारा सलूक लोगों के साथ जो सफर करते हैं उसी तरह होना चाहिए जैसे कमर्शियल इदारों में लोगों के साथ होता है। मैं अपना जाती वाकया आप को बताना चाहता हूं। इसी 13 तारीख को मुझे जाना था और ट्रेन का जो डिब्बा खड़ा था उस में पंखे नहीं चल रहे थे। ढाई घंटे ट्रेन लेट थी, मैंने बहुता चाहा कि पंखे चल जायें। इसके लिए मैंने कोशिश की कि कोई रेलवे कर्मचारी वहां मिल जाए, लेकिन कोई नहीं मिला। एक बाबू साहब जिन्होंने अपना नाम के० के० अग्निहोत्री बताया वह मुझे मिल गये, मैंने उनसे कहा भाई पंखे नहीं चल रहे हैं। वह कहने लगे मेरा कोई काम नहीं है। मैंने कहा कि मैं मैम्बर पार्लियामेंट हूं, रेल में अगर पंखा नहीं चलता है तो आप किसी जिम्मेदार आदमी से कहिए ताकि यह ठीक हो जाए। तो इस के बाद उन्होंने और भी अजीब ढंग से जवाब दिया जैसे वह खिसिया सा गया हो। मैंने कहा अगर आप का काम नहीं है तो किसी और को बता दो क्योंकि मुझे नहीं पता कि किस से कहा जाए। दो, तीन आदमियों से मैंने कहा सेक्योरिटी के एक इंस्पैक्टर से कहा, लेकिन वह अग्निहोत्री जी बड़ी बदसलूकी से पेश आये। तो कमर्शियल इदारों में जैसे लोगों से सलूक होता है उसी तरह से यहां भी लोगों से कर्मचारी प्यार से बात करें, इससे रेलवे को क्रेडिट मिलगा। इस दौरान रेलवे कर्मचारियों में कुछ बातें ऐसी आ गई हैं जिन्हें हमें रोकना होगा। ढाई घंटे रेल लेट हो जाए कोई साधारण बात नहीं है। मुझे एक जरूरी काम था इसलिए फगवारा से उतरकर मैंने बस से पहुंचने की कोशिश की। अप्रैल तक गाड़ियां ठीक समय से चल रही थी, लेकिन इधर मई और जून में तीन, चार बार मुझे जाने का मौका मिला तो पाया कि गाड़ियां लेट चल रही हैं। 13 तारीख को ढाई घंटे लेट थी ट्रेन, आप इनक्वायरी कर लें और के० के० अग्निहोत्री का पता कर लें और उनसे कहा जाए कि थोड़ी सी शराफत से लोगों से पेश आयें जिस से रेलवे की बदनामी न हो।

इसके अलावा ऐसा लगता है कि कुछ लोगों के नाम कैन्टीनों का पट्टा सा लिखा गया है। उन्हीं को ठेके मिल जाते हैं। यह लोग 15,20 रु० महीने पर रेलवे से कैन्टीन का ठेका ले लेते हैं, पुराने कांग्रेसियों ने यह ठेके ले रखे हैं और फिर उनको 2, 3 हजार रुपए महीने पर और लोगों को उठा देते हैं। आप इस की जांच करें ताकि आप को पता लग सके कि यह गड़बड़ क्यों है।

रेलवे में चोरियों को सख्ती से रोकने की आप कोशिश करें।

15 hrs.

एक बात मैं और कहूंगा, चाहे कुछ दोस्त मैम्बर्स नाराज हो जायें। जैसे बाहर के मुल्कों में जहां जहां भी जो जो लाइन अन-इकनामिक हैं, वह बन्द हो रही हैं, लेकिन हम यहां और बनाने की बात कर रहे हैं। रेलवे लाइनें बनें, जो कि इकनामिक लाइनें हों। जहां पर बसों का प्रबन्ध है, देश में ऐसे बहुत से एरियाज हैं जहां पर लोग चढ़ते ही बसों में हैं, रेलों

में जाते ही नहीं, रेलवे खाली चल रही हैं, लोग बसों में ही सफर करते हैं, वहां पर रेल का क्या फायदा है ? इसलिए यहां भी जिन लाइनों की जरुरत है, जो इकनामिक हैं वही बनायें। नई लाइन लुधियाना से चण्डीगढ़ तक की मुनाफे वाली रहेगी। तो जो छोटी छोटी लाइनें हैं, ठीक ढंग से नहीं चल रही हैं, वहां बस का इंतजाम है लेकिन अन-इकनामिक लाईनों का क्या फायदा है। जहां बस का इंतजाम नहीं है, वहां रेलवे को सुविधा देनी चाहिए। अगर वहां अन-इकनामिक हो तो भी रेलवे लाइन चलनी चाहिए। आप बाहर के देशों में देखें, फ्रांस इंग्लैंड वगैरह में जितनी अन-इकनामिक लाइनें थीं, वह बन्द कर दी गई हैं क्योंकि लोगों का रुझान दूसरे ट्रांस्पोर्टों की तरफ चलता जा रहा है।

इन शब्दों में मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि रेलवे कमर्शियल इदारा है, कमर्शियल ढंग से ही और रेलवे शुरू करें। जो रेलवे में जागीरें बनी हुई हैं, उनको रोक दें, रेलवे बोर्ड में जो बड़े बड़े नवाब बैठे हुए हैं, उन सब को थोड़ी सी लगाम लगायें और ढांचे को बदल दें। अगर इस ढांचे को नहीं बदलेंगे, तो चाहे जितनी कोशिश कर लें, आपका कोई असर नीचे तक नहीं होगा। अगर इस ढांचे को ठीक करना है, तो लाजमीतौर पर आपको कुछ बुनियादी तब्दीलियां करनी होंगी, तभी इसको ठीक कर पायेंगे।

जो ट्रेनें वक्त पर नहीं आ रही हैं, उनको वक्त पर लाने के लिए लाजमीतौर पर इन्तजाम करना चाहिए। दिल्ली से चलने वाली रेल दो-दो और ढाई-ढाई घंटे लेट हो जाये और जालन्धर पहुंचते-पहुंचते तीन और साढ़े तीन घंटे लेट हो जाए, तो यह रेलवे के लिए कोई क्रेडिट की बात नहीं है। पिछले 30 वर्षों से जो विजन जिस ढंग से काम चलाता रहा है, उसी का नतीजा है कि एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन में डैट्रियोरेशन हो रहा है। इसको ठीक करने के लिए आपको ढांचे में बुनियादी तब्दीली करनी होगी।

श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया (इटावा) : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से रेल मंत्री का ध्यान कुछ बुनियादी सवालों की तरफ आकर्षित करना उचित समझता हूं। लगातार पिछले 30 वर्षों तक कुछ बुनियादी सवाल उठाये गये, कुछ सैद्धान्तिक सवाल उठाये गये। अखबारों को पढ़कर और खुद सोशलिस्ट लोगों की शक्लों को देखकर, मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि अब वे टैक्नोलौजी, विज्ञान और साइंस का सहारा छोड़कर पूजा, पुजारी और दैवी शक्ति में विश्वास करने लगे हैं। अगर हम विज्ञान, टैक्नालोजी और साइंस का सहारा छोड़कर सिर्फ शक्ति में विश्वास करेंगे तो सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से रेल मंत्री से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि फिर जो सत्ताधारी दल के लोग रहे हैं, उनके चेहरों में और आपके चेहरों में क्या अन्तर है ?

पिछले 30 वर्षों में जो शर्मनाक एक्सीडैंट हुए और उनमें लोगों की जानें गईं तो हम विरोधी दल के सोशलिस्ट लोगों ने लगातार सत्ताधारी दल से मांग की है कि संबंधित मिनिस्टर इस्तीफा दें। मैं आज अपने दल के सम्मानित मिनिस्टर जो रेलवे विभाग के मिनिस्टर हैं उनको बताना चाहता हूं कि उत्तर पूर्वांचल में असम में जो शर्मनाक रेल दुर्घटना हुई है, उसमें बताया गया है कि 80 लोग मरे हैं, लेकिन जहां तक मुझे खबर मिली है, उसके अनुसार उससे कहीं ज्यादा दुखद मौतें इसमें हुई हैं। जब भी कोई रेल दुर्घटना हुई है, तब हमेशा यह मांग की गई है कि उस समय के रेल मंत्री इस्तीफ़ा दें, चाहे उस समय श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी मंत्री रहे हों और चाहे श्री जगजीवन राम। अपने दल का सदस्य होने के नाते मैं हियर एंड नाउ मंत्री महोदय से यह मांग करता हूं कि उन्हें तुरन्त इस्तीफ़ा दे कर अपनी पुरानी घोषणाओं पर अमल करना चाहिए। (व्यवधान) जो ताली पीटते हैं, उन से मेरा निवेदन है कि अब सत्ता उन के हाथ से चली

[श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया]

गई है और योगाश्रम भी उन के हाथ से चला गया है, अब तो वे विधवाश्रम खोलें। यह मांग तो उन की तरफ से होनी चाहिए थी। क्या वे इसी तरह विरोध-पक्ष का काम करेंगे? न उन से सत्ताधारी दल का काम हो सका और न अब उन से विरोध पक्ष का काम हो सकेगा। अब तो वे विधवाश्रम खोलें। मैं वानप्रस्थ हूं। वे ट्रेनिंग लेने के लिए मुझे कुछ दिनों के लिए बतायें, जिस से मैं उन को बता सकूं कि किस तरह काम होता है।

या तो हम स्पष्ट रूप से कहना चाहिए कि हमारी पिछली सारी धारणायें सिर्फ दिखावटी, खोखली और आडम्बरपूर्ण थीं और इस स्थिति में हम प्रायश्चित करना चाहिये और या सत्ता में आने के बाद हमें अपनी उन घोषणाओं को कार्यान्वित कर के मुक्त और आगे आने वाली पीढ़ी को एक नई दिशा देनी चाहिए।

मेरे बहुत ही लायक दोस्त एक पुराने सोशलिस्ट और श्री जार्ज फर्नांडीज के बहुत निकट के साथी हैं। श्री जार्ज फर्नांडीज ने हमेशा यह कहा है कि जैलून्ज को बन्द करना चाहिए और रेलवे बोर्ड के बारे में वह कहते रहे हैं कि यह एक सफेद हाथी है। लेकिन आज उस सफेद हाथी पर हमारे वर्तमान मंत्री चढ़े हुए हैं। उन्होंने उस पर कोई अंकुश नहीं लगाया है, बल्कि उस पर सवारी कर ली है। मैं चाहता हूं कि जैलून्ज को समाप्त किया जाये और साथ साथ रेलवे बोर्ड को भी खत्म किया जाये, क्योंकि वह निरर्थक है और उस से खर्चा, दिखावा और आडम्बर बढ़ते हैं। उस पर मंत्री महोदय का कोई नियंत्रण नहीं हो रहा है।

शायद मंत्री महोदय यह कहें कि इस दुर्घटना के बारे में दिया गया वह स्टेटमेंट उन का अपना नहीं था, जिसमें वैसी आपत्ति की बात कही गई थी। अगर वह स्टेटमेंट उन का अपना नहीं था, तो उन्होंने कितने सम्बन्धित अधिकारियों को मुअत्तिल किया? उन्हें सफाई से बताना होगा कि कौन इस के लिए जिम्मेदार है।

हम ने सोचा था कि देश में जो भ्रष्टाचार व्याप्त है, जनता पार्टी की सरकार बनने पर उस में कुछ कमी होगी। लेकिन मैं महसूस करता हूं कि जहां तक रेलवे का सम्बन्ध है, भ्रष्टाचार में रत्ती भर भी कमी नहीं आई है। बड़ौदा हाउस में आज भी वह चीफ कामर्शल सुपरिन्टेंडेंट बैठे हुए हैं, जिनके शानदार मकान का फर्नीचर लाखों रुपया खर्च कर के विदेशों से मंगाया गया है। आज भी वे किस तरह लूट रहे हैं, इस के हजारों प्रमाण हैं।

टुंडला के कई बैरंग हमारे पास आये हैं। उन्हें खोमचा और ठेला मिलना चाहिए। लेकिन मैनेजर एक एक हजार रुपया ले कर ठेला देता है। वहां पर भूख हड़ताल चल रही है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Member's time is over.

श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया: सभापति महोदय, मुझे अपनी बात कह लेने दीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I express my inability. Will you kindly sit down? There are only 10 minutes to go and there are three speakers on the list. I express my inability. The Minister will have to reply.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA: I hope you will give me two minutes more.

प्रो० मधु दण्डवते: मेरा सुझाव यह है कि मुझे जितना समय दिया जायगा उस में से पांच मिनट घटा कर भदौरिया जी को पांच मिनट और दे दिया जाय।

श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया: अनेक जो बुनियादी और सैद्धांतिक सवाल छूट गए हैं उन को मैं भी छोड़ देता हूं। जिस की वजह से जनता पार्टी और उस की सरकार का चेहरा धूमिल हो रहा है उस की तरफ ध्यान आकर्षित कर रहा हूं। लोक सभा के चुनावों

तक जो गाड़ियां चलती रहीं चुनावों के बाद उस में से अनेक गाड़ियां बन्द कर दी गई हैं। आखिर उस का कारण क्या है? उन गाड़ियों की तरफ मैं रेल मंत्रालय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। एक शटल गाड़ी टूंडला से कानपुर तक दिन में चलती थी। हजारों गरीब यात्री छोटे छोटे स्टेशनों के उस से आते जाते थे। जैसे ही चुनाव समाप्त हुए एक हफ्ते बाद वह गाड़ी बन्द कर दी गई। उस का सारा का सारा दोष जनता पार्टी पर आ गया। यह प्रचार होने लगा कि गरीब यात्रियों को परेशान करने के लिए जनता पार्टी की सरकार ने इन गाड़ियों को बन्द कर दिया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जो शटल गाड़ी टूंडला से कानपुर तक चलती थी उस को क्यों बन्द किया गया? उस को फिर से चालू किया जाय। रेलवे बोर्ड की तरफ से कहा जायगा कि वहां कोई मार्शलिंग नहीं है। मैं कहूंगा कि आगे के स्टेशन पर मार्शलिंग है। वहां गाड़ी को रोक कर दुबारा टूंडला से उस को स्टार्ट किया जा सकता है।

इसी प्रकार आगरा इलाहाबाद गाड़ी को बन्द कर दिया गया है। इस के भी नतीजे बुरे हुए हैं। मेरा सुझाव है कि इस गाड़ी को भी फिर से चलाया जाय।

बहुत से पुराने ठेकेदारों को रेलवे में ठेके दिए जाते हैं जो वह दूसरों को बेचते हैं। जिस में बड़ौदा हाउस के सी सी एम का भी हिस्सा रहता है। इस चीज को समाप्त किया जाय और ऐसे लोगों को कत्तई ठेके न दिए जायें जो दूसरों को अपने ठेके बेचे हुए हैं।

ग्वालियर लाइन के बारे में मुझे जो जबाव मिला है वह रेलवे बोर्ड की तरफ से गलत जबाव दिया गया है। मेरा निवेदन है कि आसाम को अगर आप बम्बई से जोड़ना चाहते हैं जिस में कभी भी हमारे भारत पर आक्रमण हो तो सीधा सम्पर्क स्थापित हो सके तो ग्वालियर से भिंड, इटावा-फर्रुखाबाद होते हुए शाहजहांपुर हो कर आसाम तक आप रेलवे लाइन से जोड़ दीजिए। इस बारे में मैं 1957 से 62 तक और 1967 से 70 तक कहता रहा हूं और केवल मैं ने ही नहीं डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया ने अनेक बार इस के लिए कहा है। आप की तरफ से जो जवाब दिया गया है कि इस पर कभी भी विचार नहीं किया गया है, यह जानबूझ कर आप को धोखे में रखा गया है। डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया ने इस लाइन के बारे में यह कहा है और आज मैं फिर इस लाइन की बात को दोहराना चाहता हूं। इस से एक तो उस डाकू इलाके में लोगों को काम मिलेगा और साथ साथ उस इलाके की बैकवर्डनेस दूर होगी। अभी ए माननीय सदस्य जो ग्वालियर संभाग से चुन कर आए हैं उन्होंने इस तरफ ध्यान आकर्षित किया। अब उस डाकू क्षेत्र में भिंड से ग्वालियर तक गाड़ी चलती है वह तीन दिन तक ही आती जाती। मेरा निवेदन यह है कि इस छोटी लाइन को डी लाईन में बदल कर सीधा शहजहांपुर और आसाम तक बढ़ाया जाए। इस से लाखों लोगों को काम मिलेगा और उस इलाके का पिछड़ापन दूर होगा। इस लाइन के बनने से उस डाकू क्षेत्र में भी कुछ ऐसा काम हो सकेगा जिससे उस क्षेत्र को ऐसा क्षेत्र बनाने में हम सफल होंगे जिसमें एक आदमी अपनी सम्मानपूर्ण जिन्दगी बसर कर सकें

30 पैसे के प्लैटफार्म टिकट का जो जिक्र किया जाता है यह तो एक जूमला है। इस के लिए मैं प्रशंसा नहीं कर सकता। जो बड़ा काम है जैसे जनता ट्रेन की बात है वह एक अच्छी चीज है और उस सिलसिले में यह कहूंगा कि जो लगातार यह कहा गया कि जब जनता सरकार बनेगी तो ठण्डे और गरम कमरे समाप्त होंगे तो आज तब जनता सरकार चल रही है तो ये जितने मुफ्तखोर लोग फर्स्ट क्लास और एयर कंडीशंड डिब्बों में चलते हैं इन को समाप्त कर के एक तरह की ट्रेन जब चलाएंगे तो उस की प्रशंसा होगी। इन शब्दों के साथ

इस बजट का जो भी समर्थन एक जनता पार्टी के सदस्य के नाते करना चाहिए वह मैं कर रहा हूं।

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान (अलीगढ़) : सभापति महोदय, मैं अधिक समय लेना नहीं चाहता। मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देने की औपचारिकता भी नहीं करना चाहता। सीमित समय में मैं अपनी दो चार बातें सामने रखना चाहता हूं। एक कल्याणकारी भावना से इस बजट को तैयार किया गया है और जो योजनायें रखी गई हैं वह बड़ी उत्तम हैं। मंत्री महोदय ने सुधार की एक शुरुआत यह की है कि जो एडहाक एप्वाइंटमेन्ट्स (तदर्थ नियुक्तियां) हुए हैं उनको रेलवे सेवा आयोग के सुपुर्द किया है लेकिन मैं समझता हूं जब उन्होंने सुधार ही शुरू किया है तो उसको क्रांतिकारी तरीके से अमल में लाना चाहिए। जो एडहाक एप्वाइंटमेंटस् हुए थे वह "एम आर डिजायर्स" (मंत्री जी की इच्छा है) के आधार पर किए गए थे। मैं समझता हूं मंत्री जी ने इस मामले में कमजोरी दिखलाई है. इन एडहाक एप्वाइंटमेंटस् को रेलवे सर्विस कमीशन को न देकर स्वयं ही तुरन्त निरस्त करना चाहिए था। जब वह एडहाक एप्वाइंटमेंट्स ही हुए हैं तो क्या उनको इसलिए कमीशन में भेजा गया है कि वहां से भी उनकी मंजूरी हो जाये और वह रेग्युलेराइज्ड हो जायें। मैं समझता हूं यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है कि उन एप्वाइंटमेंट्स को रेलवे कमीशन के पास भेजा जाये। जिस तरीके से पहले मंत्री जी की इच्छा हुई थी उसी तरीके से अब मंत्री जी की यह इच्छा होनी चाहिए कि उनकी इच्छा नहीं है और उन नियुक्तियों को निरस्त कर दिया जाये।

श्री उदसेन (देवरिया) : आपको उनकी रोजी छीनने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है। (व्यवधान)।

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : उनको रोजी तो मिली लेकिन किस तरीके से ? और जो दूसरे नये लोग रह गए उनका क्या होगा ? (व्यवधान)

दूसरी बात यह है कि पिछले मंत्री महोदय के समय में कुछ जो ठेके दिए गए वह भी "एम आरडिजायर्स" के आधार पर दिए गए। इसलिए उनको भी देखना चाहिए। ज्यादातर पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के लोगों को ठेके दिए गए हैं। यही नहीं, महाराष्ट्र तक धावा बोला गया है। शायद यह खयाल रहा होगा कि आगे महाराष्ट्र से रेल मंत्री आयेंगे इसलिए उनका रास्ता अवरुद्ध कर दिया जाये। इस प्रकार खास किस्म के लोगों को ठेके दिए गए हैं। क्या मेरे मित्र फिर कहेंगे कि जिनको रोजगार दिया गया है वह उनसे क्यों छीना जाये ? मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि हमारे अलीगढ़ के एक गरीब आदमी, अनुसूचित जाति के आदमी को ठेका नहीं दिया गया लेकिन एक देवीजी जो मंत्री थी उनके पी० ए० के रिश्तेदारों को ठेका दे दिया गया। क्या मेरे मित्र कहेंगे कि यह भी ठीक है ? ऐसे लोगों को ठेका दिया गया है जिनमें एक तो इस संसार में नहीं है और दूसरे पागल हैं। इसी प्रकार की बात एप्वाइंटमेन्ट्स में भी हुई होगी। मेरे मित्र ने बताया कि हजारों कांग्रेसियों को फर्स्ट क्लास के पास दिए गए। मैं चाहता हूं ऐसे ठेकों की लिस्ट यहां पर रखी जाये जोकि आपात काल में भूतपूर्व मंत्री जी द्वारा दिए गए थे ताकि सदस्यों को उसकी जानकारी हो सके। उसी प्रकार जिनको पास दिए गए हैं उनकी सूची भी यहां पर रखी जानी चाहिए।

श्री उदसेन : क्या आप चाहते हैं कि जनता पार्टी को पास दे दिये जायें।

श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : जी नहीं। मैं तो यह कह रहा हूं कि हम दूसरों के लिए तो कहते हैं लेकिन स्वयं उस प्रकार की भावना नहीं रखते। हम दूसरों के लिए कहते हैं कि वे कोचेज में चलते हैं लेकिन हम स्वयं भी फर्स्ट क्लास में चलते हैं। पहले हम स्वयं आदर्श प्रस्तुत करें फिर दूसरों से कहें। हम दूसरों की तरफ तो देखते हैं लेकिन अपनी तरफ नहीं देखना चाहते।

मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान एक बात की ओर और आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं जिसको बहुत से लोग जानते भी नहीं हैं । वह है आई० आर० सी० ए० --इंडियन रेलवे कान्फ्रेन्स एसोसिएशन--जोकि रेलवे का ही बच्चा है । इसमें जनरल मैनेजर्स होते हैं, वरिष्ठ जनरल मैनेजर इसका अध्यक्ष होता है । इसके कर्मचारियों की शुरू से मांग रही है कि इस को बाकायदा सरकार का ही एक महकमा समझा जाय, लेकिन उन की यह मांग मानी नहीं गई. इसके बहुत से कारण हैं, इस वक्त मैं उन कारणों में जाना नहीं चाहता । लेकिन एक बात कहना चाहता हूं, जब रेलवे बोर्ड उन का बजट स्वीकार करता है, रेलवे के नियमों के अनुसार उन को चलना पड़ता है, तो फिर अपने ही बच्चों को अपना बच्चा मानने में क्यों इन्कार कर हैं । उन की यूनियन भी यह मांग करती रही है, मैंने भी इस के बारे में लिखा था, मैं चाहता हूं कि आप इस के बारे में विचार करें और इस को रेलवे का ही महकमा समझा जाय ।

मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि आप इन दोनों बातों पर जरूर ध्यान देंगे ।

श्री आरिफ बेग (भोपाल) चेयरमैन साहब, रेलवेज के सिलसिले में जो मांगे पेश की गई है, मैं उन की ताईद करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूं । जिस दिन यहां पर बजट पेश किया गया था, उस दिन मैं इस सदन में मौजूद नहीं था, अपनी कांस्टीचूएन्सी में था । मैंने रेलवे बजट के पेश हो जाने के बाद आवाम के जो तास्सुरात देखे, उस से मुझे बहुत खुशी हुई । पहली बार भारत की लोक सभा में कोई बजट पेश किया जाय और जन-साधारण, उस पर अपनी खुशी का इजहार करे-यह हमारे लिये प्रसन्नता की बात है । मैं इस के लिये रेलवे के मंत्री महोदय को बधाई देता हूं । जिस तरह से उन्होंने एक अच्छी शुरुआत की है, इस से यह उम्मीद हमें वाबस्ता हो गई है मुस्तकबिल-करीब में हमारे सपनों के हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर चलने वाली रेलें बगैर किसी श्रेणी के चलेंगी और जनता इस बात को महसूस करेगी कि अब हिन्दुस्तान के रहने वालों में सफ़र के मामले में कोई भेद-भाव नहीं है ।

आज हमारे मुल्क को आजाद हुए 30 साल से ज्यादा अर्सा हो चुका है, लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान के अवाम के अन्दर इतना फर्क है कि कुछ लोग शाही-ठाठबाट के साथ सफर करते हैं और कुछ लोगों को रेल में बैठने के लिये जगह भी नहीं मिलती है । रात-भर हिन्दुस्तान का गरीब अवाम जाग कर सफर करता है लेकिन कुछ लोग शाही ठाठबाट के साथ एअर-कण्डीशन और फर्स्ट क्लास की कोचेज में चारों हाथ-पैर फैला कर सोते हुए आराम के साथ सफ़र करते हैं । मुझे उम्मीद है कि सोशलिस्ट लीडर के नेतृत्व में हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर यह समान्ता पैदा होगी कि जो लोग शाही महलों में रहते हैं उन को भी अवाम के साथ सफ़र करने का मौका मिलेगा । मुझे यह भी यकीन है कि हमारी सरकार और उस में बैठे हुए वजीर इस की पहल खुद करेंगे । मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि वह खुद सब से पहले इस की शुरुआत करें और मंत्री मंडल में शामिल जो मंत्री हैं उन को कम से कम सैलून, एअरकण्डीशण्ड और फर्स्ट क्लास की कोचेज इस्तेमाल करने के बजाय सैकण्ड क्लास में सफ़र कर के हिन्दुस्तान में एक नया उदाहरण कायम करना चाहिये । मुझे उम्मीद है श्री मोरारजी देसाई साहब की कयादत में जो ई परम्परा कायम हुई है, उस की हम ताईद करेंगे और उस राह पर चल कर हिन्दुस्तान के अवाम में जो विश्वास पैदा हुआ है, उसको और ज्यादा मजबूत बनायेंगे ।

मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं--जहां रेलवे के अन्दर कुछ तबदीलियों की जरूरत है, वहां भ्रष्टाचार के मामलों में हमें कुछ सख्ती करनी होगी, ऐसे इकदामात उठाने होंगे

[श्री आरिफ बेग]

जिन से भ्रष्टाचार कम हो। बड़े आफिसरों, मंत्रियों और संसद सदस्यों की कमेटियों को मुखतलिफ़ स्टेशनों पर इंस्पैक्शन करना चाहिए। वहां पर साधारण जनता के बीच में खड़े रह कर प्लेटफार्म पर देखें कि किस तरह से वहां पर भ्रष्टाचार होता है। रेलवे के अधिकारी किस तरह से रिश्वत लेकर आवाम को सुख-सुविधा देते हैं।

मैं चाहता हूं कि हमारे रेलवे कर्मचारियों के जो बड़े अफसर हैं, उन्हें पता चलना चाहिए कि हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर हवा बदल गई है। अब वह कुशासन खत्म हो गया है, जिसकी सरपरस्ती में उन्होंने अवाम को चूसा है और भ्रष्टाचार को बढ़ाया है। सभापति महोदय मुझे थोड़ा समय और दीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time at our disposal is short and we have to pass the Appropriation Bill by 4 O'clock today.

श्री आरिफ बेग: सभापति महोदय, मैं पहली बार इस सदन में बोल रहा हूं। मैं दो मिनट और आप से चाहूंगा।

मैं एक जरूरी मसले पर इस सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। हमारे रेलवे प्लेटफार्मों पर जो बुक स्टाल्स स्थापित हैं, पिछले बहुत सालों से वहां पर ए०एच० व्हीलर एण्ड कम्पनी की इजारेदारी है और हिन्दुस्तान के पूरे 300 स्टेशनों पर उन्हीं को ठेके दिये गये हैं और मुझे इस बात का इल्म है कि ठेका खत्म होने के दो साल पहले ही उसका नवीकरण कर दिया गया। मैं आपसे अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस इजारेदारी को पूरी तरह से खत्म करना चाहिए। वहां पर जो वेन्डर्स काम करते हैं, उनको फेयर केजेज देने का वायदा इस कम्पनी ने किया था लेकिन वह पूरा नहीं किया गया और कई कर्मचारियों को विकटेमाइज़ किया गया। इसके लिए दिल्ली के स्टेशन पर काफी लम्बे अर्से से कर्मचारी भूख हड़ताल कर रहे हैं। इस ओर मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय और उनके मंत्रालय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं और यह अर्ज करना चाहूंगा कि ए० एच० व्हीलर एण्ड कम्पनी की इजारेदारी को खत्म कर के वैन्डर्स को यह काम दिया जाए क्योंकि वहां पर गड़बड़ी की इत्तिला है। वे लोग करोड़ों रुपया कमाते हैं और लाखों रुपया कर्मचारियों और अफसरों को रिश्वत में दिया जाता है। मैं चाहता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय इस सिलसिले में कदम उठाएं।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आप का शुक्रिया अदा करता हूं कि आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया और मंत्री महोदय ने जो मांगें पेश की हैं, उन का समर्थन करता हूं।

श्री अर्जुन सिंह भदौरिया: सभापति महोदय, आपकी आज्ञा से जो मैंने, अभी निवेदन किया था, उसमें मुझसे कुछ कहने को छूट गया था, उस को अपने उस भाषण में जोड़ना चाहता हूं।

मुझे यह निवेदन करना है कि जब तक आयोग की रिपोर्ट न आए, तब तक के लिए मंत्री जी इस्तीफा दें और आयोग की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद अगर रेलवे बोर्ड और रेलवे कर्मचारी अपराधी हैं तो मंत्री जी को सदैव के लिए त्यागपत्र देना चाहिए और अगर अपराध सिद्ध न हो, तो वह स्तीफा वापस हो। ये बातें हमारे उस भाषण में जोड़ देनी चाहिए।

श्री कर्पूरी ठाकुर (समस्तीपुर): सभापति महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं रेलवे मंत्री जी को इस बात के लिए धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने इस बार रेल बजट पेश करते हुए न तो यात्रियों का भाड़ा बढ़ाया और न माल गाड़ियों का भाड़ा बढ़ाया है। हमेशा

जब रेलवे बजट पेश होता रहा है, तो आम जनता के दिल में यह बात खटकती रहती थी कि इस बार हो न हो कहीं यात्री भाड़ा और माल भाड़ा न बढ़ जाए लेकिन जो जनता की धारणा भाड़ा बढ़ने के सम्बन्ध में थी, वह इस बार निर्मूले साबित हुई है और उनके ऊपर नया बोझा हमारे रेल मंत्री जी ने नहीं डाला है। इसके लिए मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूं ।

इसके साथ साथ मैं इस बात के लिए भी उनको धन्यवाद देता हूं कि पहली बार रेल प्रशासन के इतिहास में उन्होंने 50,000 चतुर्थ श्रेणी के लोगों को सिलेक्शन ग्रड देने का फ़ैसला किया है । यह कोई मामूली बात नहीं है । जो लोग मज़दूर संगठनों से सम्बन्धित हैं और जो लोग चतुर्थ वर्गीय कर्मचारियों और निम्न स्तर के कर्मचारियों की स्थिति से अवगत हैं, वे यह कहते हुए प्रसन्नता प्रकट करेंगे और करते है कि पहली बार रेल प्रशासन के इतिहास में इतने बड़े पैमाने पर चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों को रेल मंत्री जी ने लाभान्वित किया है और इतना ही नहीं कि केवल 50 हज़ार कर्मचारियों को सिलेक्शन ग्रेड मिलेगा बल्कि वह 1-8-76 से मिलेगा यानी उस का भूतलक्षी प्रभाव होगा और उस तारीख से उनको फ़ायदा पहुंचेगा ।

सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे पांच मिनट कृपापूर्वक दिये हैं, इसलिए मैं दो तीन बातें आप से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा । एक तो यह कहना चाहूंगा कि बिहार के दरभंगा जिले के सकरी रेलवे स्टेशन से कुसेश्वर स्थान होते हुए हसनपुर रोड तक नई रेलवे लाइन बनाने के सम्बन्ध में रेलवे मंत्रालय द्वारा पहले ही घोषणा की जा चुकी है और वह स्वीकृत योजना है । कुसेश्वर स्थान बिहार का बहुत बड़ा तीर्थ स्थान है और लोग तीर्थयात्रा के लिए हर साल वहां जाया करते हैं। लेकिन वह एक पिछड़े इलाके में फंसा हुआ स्थान है । वहां अभी तक रेल की सुविधा नहीं है, सड़क की भी सुविधा नहीं है । यातायात की सुविधाओं के अभाव में तीर्थयात्रियों को भयंकर कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है। वह कोशी का इलाका है जहां की जमीन बिल्कुल क्षत-विक्षत अवस्था में है। वह बिल्कुल पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है । इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से आग्रह करूंगा कि वहां रेलवे लाइन का निर्माण अवश्य किया जाए ।

दूसरी बात संथाल परगना की है । संथाल परगना हमारे बिहार का सबसे पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है । वहां पर भी रेलवे लाइन का बहुत अभाव है । अगर बिहार में सबसे कम रेलवे लाइन किसी जिले में हैं तो वह संथाल परगना जिले में हैं ।इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय आग्रहपूर्वक कहूंगा कि संथाल परगना में नयी रेल लाइने बिछाने के सम्बन्ध में निश्चित रूप से कोई योजना हाथ में लें ।

हमारे बिहार का तीसरा जिला सहर्षा है जो कि बहुत पिछड़े जिलों में एक है । अगर इस जिले को आप देखेंगे तो आपको पता चलेगा कि यह कितना पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है। अतः मैं चाहूंगा कि बिहारीगंज से सहर्षा तक रेल लाइन बिछाने के सम्बन्ध में भी कोई निर्णय रेलवे मंत्रालय को करना चाहिए ।

रेलवे में रिज़र्वेशन के मामले में भयंकर भ्रष्टाचार होता है । मेरा खुद का अनुभव इस सम्बन्ध में है । जब मैं फरार था और फरारी की हालत में जब मुझे रिज़र्वेशन कराना होता था तो रिज़र्वेशन कराना और भी मुश्किल हो जाता था । उस समय मैं अपने नाम से तो रिजर्वेशन करा नहीं सकता था । अन्य किसी आदमी के नाम से यह रिज़र्वेशन कराता। रिज़र्वेशन पहले किसी भी जगह का मिलता ही नहीं था । रिज़र्वेशन वाले पहले से ही दो तीन दिन पहले से एक चार्ट बना कर रख लेते हैं और कह देते हैं कि सब सीटें भर चुकी हैं । सिलीगुड़ी से सियालदाह या सियालदाह से सिलीगुड़ी आने-जाने में अत्यन्त कठिनाई

[श्री कर्पूरी ठाकुर]

का सामना करना पड़ता था । वह स्लीपर्स के बारे में ही नहीं थी बल्कि आम दर्जे में बैठने की जो सीटें होती हैं वह सीटें भी यात्रियों को रेलवे कर्मचारी दो दो या तीन-तीन रुपये लेकर देते थे । इन सीटों का कोई रिजर्वेशन नहीं लेकिन यात्री इन पर बिना घूस दिये नहीं बैठ सकता । अगर पैसा दीजिए तो आपको बैठने की जगह मिलेगी नहीं तो खड़े-खड़े यात्रा कीजिए । यह सब मैंने अपनी आंखों देखा है । मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि रेलवे की यह आम शिकायत है और इसको वे जल्दी दूर करें ।

आखिरी बात यह है कि मैं चाहता हूं कि रेलवे में समता लायी जाए । रेलवे और शिक्षण संस्थाओं में हमें सबसे पहले समता लाने का प्रयास करना चाहिए । यह काम दृढ़तापूर्वक निर्णय लेकर ही किया जा सकता है । मैं चाहूंगा कि रेलवे में से द्वितीय और प्रथम श्रेणी की विषमता शीघ्रातिशीघ्र समाप्त की जाए । अगर शीघ्र नहीं हो सके तो कम से कम इस सम्बन्ध में नीति की घोषणा की जाए कि इस समय तक इस विषमता का अंत कर दिया जाएगा । यह काम हम अगले दो सालों, तीन सालों के अन्दर कर सकते हैं । जनता सरकार की जिंदगी पांच साल की है हमें इसके अन्दर सभी प्रकार की विषमताओं का अन्त करके समाजवाद लाना है । हम समाजवाद लाने का श्रीगणेश रेलवे प्रशासन से कर सकते हैं । अतः मैं चाहूंगा कि रेल मंत्रालय का संचालन करने वाले रेल मंत्री इस समता को लाने की घोषणा करें ।

सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका अधिक समय नहीं लूंगा । मैं सिर्फ इतना और कहना चाहता हूं कि बिहार के अन्दर लोग छतों पर बैठ कर रेल में सफर करते हैं । खड़े खड़े सफर करते हैं, पूरी रात भर एक मिनट के लिए उन्हें बैठने को जगह नहीं मिलती । पानी नहीं मिलता, पाखाना की दिक्कत । उन्हें सब तरह की असुविधाओं का सामना करना पड़ता है । यद्यपि वे भाड़ा देकर रेल में चलते हैं लेकिन इन सब कठिनाइयों का वे सामना करते हैं । हमारे रेल मंत्री जिस परिश्रम, अध्यवसाय और योग्यता के साथ रेल मंत्रालय का संचालन कर रहे हैं, उसको देखते हुए मुझे आशा ही नहीं बल्कि पूर्ण विश्वास है कि वे जनता की असुविधाओं और कष्टों का अंत करेंगे और रेलों में जो विषमता पाई जाती है उसका अन्त करके समता का श्रीगणेश वे रेलों से करेंगे । इन्हीं चन्द शब्दों के साथ मैं रेल बजट का समर्थन करता हूं ।

SHRI NANASAHIB BONDE (Amravati): Sir, I wanted to speak on a limited topic, but since the criticism has been levelled against us that we are so timid as even not to ask for the resignation of the Railway Minister for the serious accidents which have taken place, I would like to say with all the modesty at my command that we, the Congress members in the opposition, have exercised some restraint on our minds and decided that having regard to the fact that only two and a half months have elapsed since the new government came into being, we should not go to the extent of asking for the minister's resignation for the accidents. So, we should have been congratulated for our restraint. Instead, we are being criticised for that and I am very sorry for it.

I come from Amravati constituency. In the past assurances have come very often from the ministers that Amravati will be brought on the main line. I earnestly request the minister to expedite this matter because Amravati is not a small place. There are about 3 lakhs of people living there and it is a cotton-growing area. We send large quantities of cotton to other parts of the country from here. It is also a place famous for its Goddess Amba Devi and thousands of pilgrims are coming there every day. I, therefore, appeal to the minister through you to expedite this matter. Amravati-Narked line is always on the agenda

but it has not taken any shape till now. I request the minister to give priority to the construction of this line.

I am not going to criticise the budget. The minister has given us a fairly good budget.

श्री सरेन्द्र झा सुमन (दरभंगा) : रेल बजट के विरोध में जो कटौती प्रस्ताव पेश किए गए हैं उनका मैं विरोध करता हूं और रेल बजट का हृदय से स्वागत और समर्थन करता हूं। इसके पहले जो रेल बजट पेश हुआ करते थे वे घाटे के हुआ करते थे। इस बार सरप्लस बजट बनाने के लिए हम लोग रेल मंत्री महोदय के प्रति आभार प्रकट करते हैं। इस अवसर पर मैं कुछ सुझाव आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूं।

मेरा पहला सुझाव यह है कि यात्री के लिए समय की पाबन्दी बहुत आवश्यक होती है। खतरे में जंजीर खींचने की जो प्रथा है उस प्रथा के कारण देखा जाता है कि गांव गांव और यहां तक कि घर के समीप लोग जंजीर खींच देते हैं और गाड़ी रुकवा लेते हैं। इस कारण से गाड़ियां विलम्ब से चलती हैं। मैं सुझाव देना चाहता हूं कि इस खतरे को दूर करने के लिए जंजीर लगाने की जो प्रथा है इसको ही बन्द कर दिया जाना चाहिए और अगर खतरे की सूचना देनी हो तो रेल के जो अधिकारी हैं उनके पास ही तत्काल खतरे की सूचना पहुंचानी चाहिए।

देश भर में बड़ी लाइन और छोटी लाइन का जो द्वन्द है, जो दुविधा है उसे दूर किया जाना चाहिए और एक दीर्घकालीन योजना बना कर बड़ी लाइन में ही सब को परिणत कर देना चाहिए। अल्पकालीन योजना के लिए मैं अपने क्षेत्र के सम्बन्ध में कहूंगा कि समस्तीपुर से दरभंगा तक छोटी रेलवे लाइन को बड़ी लाइन में परिवर्तित करने की व्यवस्था शीघ्र से शीघ्र होनी चाहिए।

इसी तरह से वहां कुछ और नई लाइनों की जरूरत है जिन का निरीक्षण हो चुका है। 1973 में सकरी से हसनपुर तक रेलवे लाइन के लिए रेल मंत्री ने उद्घाटन किया था। उसकी पूर्ति शीघ्र से शीघ्र होनी चाहिए। इसी प्रकार मुजफ्फरपुर से दरभंगा तक रेलवे लाइन बिछाने के लिए सर्वेक्षण कई बार किया जा चुका है। उस के सम्बन्ध में भी विचार होना चाहिए। नेपाल की तराई हमारे क्षेत्र के पास पड़ती है और उस के समीपवर्ती सीमा क्षेत्र के लिए भी रेलवे लाइन की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए, और बड़ी लाइन अगर सम्भव हो तो रक्सौल तक या जयनगर तक पहुंचे इस की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

रेलवे कैन्टीनों और बुक स्टालों में कुछ एक परिवार की बपौती है। मैं चाहूंगा कि यह शिक्षित बेरोजगारों को दिए जायें। शहरों में यातायात के बाहुल्य की सुविधा तो है किन्तु यातायात में कभी कठिनाई हो जाती है ओवर ब्रिज न होने की वजह से। इसलिए ऐसे स्थानों पर ऊपरी पुल बनाने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। दरभंगा शहर में दो गुमटियां हैं जो 24 घंटे में 16 घंटे बन्द रहती हैं जिस की वजह से लोगों को बड़ी दिक्कत रहती है।

अब तक रेलवे लाइन का विस्तार होता था व्यापारिक क्षेत्रों में लेकिन अब कृषि प्रधान क्षेत्रों में उस की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। मेरा कहना है कि जब हम शहर से गांव की ओर जा रहे हैं और गांवों के विकास का संकल्प कर चुके हैं तो ऐसा कोई गांव नहीं बचना चाहिये जहां 15 किलोमीटर से दूर कोई स्टेशन हो। इसलिए रेलवे लाइन का विस्तार ऐसा होना चाहिए जिससे गांव गांव के लोग रेलवे की सुविधा प्राप्त कर सकें।

रेलवे द्वारा यात्री एवं माल ढुलाई का काम हो रहा है। पहले तो सड़क यातायात

[श्री सुरेन्द्र झा सुमन]

और रेल यातायात के बीच 20 और 80 का अन्तर था। लेकिन आज देखा जाता है कि सड़क और रेल यातायात और ढुलाई के काम में 50, 50 प्रतिशत का समान रूप से भार पड़ रहा है। अगर रेलवे इस काम को ले तो इससे ऊर्जा की भी देश में बचत हो सकती है।

प्लेटफार्म टिकट 50 पैसे से 30 पैसे कर दिया गया। मेरा विचार है कि 20 पैसे अगर कर दिया जाए तो कुछ और सुविधा हो सकती है। गरमी के मौसम में डिब्बों में पेय जल का प्रबन्ध, कैन्टीन की समुचित व्यवस्था, आरक्षण की सुविधा, चोरियों का रोकना और ट्रेनों में चोरी डकैती से लोगों की सुरक्षा का प्रबन्ध होना चाहिए।

तीन लाख से अधिक मजदूर कैजुअल लेबर के तौर पर काम कर रहे हैं, उनको स्थाई करना चाहिए। साथ ही अंधे, विकलांग और गरीब रोगियों को यातायात की सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए। पत्रकारों को भी यातायात की विशेष सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए।

इन सुझावों के साथ में प्रस्तुत बजट उपस्थित करने के लिए रेलमंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूं।

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Sir, day before yesterday in an elaborate speech for about one hour I had already dealt with the policy matters and to many points which some of my colleagues here raised, I had already replied in detail regarding the orders issued and also regarding the new measure of equality that is to be introduced. Matters regarding the classless trains and all those things were touched.

चौधरी लखीर सिंह : हिन्दी में बोलिए।

प्रो० मधु दंडवते : अपोजीशन के लोग काफी हैं वह समझ सकें इसलिए बोल रहा हूं। आपने देखा होगा कि क्वेश्चन आवर में जो सवाल हिन्दी में पूछे जाते हैं उनका जवाब मैं सिर्फ हिन्दी में ही देता हूं। लेकिन अगर कोई सवाल अंग्रेजी में पूछा गया और यहां विरोध किया गया हिन्दी में बोलते पर इसलिए अंग्रेजी के सवालों का जवाब मैं अंग्रेजी में देता हूं।

15.44 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Sir, while I gave one hour's reply day before yesterday, I had raised certain issues regarding surplus and at that time I had put forward my point of view, but in the course of the discussion on the Demands many points were raised and one of the points raised was that it is true that in the last Budget of 1976-77 the previous Government had increased the freight and had mopped up Rs. 87 crores. And as a result of that, they were able to mop up a surplus of Rs. 65 crores. Many Members from the other side of the House, while speaking to-day, put forward the plea that because we were able to have the increased freight and mop up Rs. 87 crores through it, the necessary base for the budget of 1977-78 could be provided. On the basis of facts and figures for the last 7 years, I would say that we cannot take it as an axiomatic proposition that whenever we are able to have increased rates in freight and fares, it necessarily results in surplus, and necessarily gives the base for the next budget. I have done some home work in this regard. I have found out what type of budgets were presented under the Congress government between 1969-70 and 1976-77. (*Interruptions*) I may just call it government, if you are so much ashamed of the name 'Congress'. (*Interruptions*) I am building up a financial argument on a sound basis.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Lakkappa, this is not the way.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: For that purpose, it is necessary to quote

the statistics of the last 10 budgets. In the 1969-70 budget, they had increased the freight and collected Rs. 3 crores. In spite of that, the deficit was Rs. 10 crores. During 1970-71, they increased the freight and fare; and collected through such increase Rs. 26 crores. And even then, the railway deficit was Rs. 20 crores. There are very interesting facts about 1971-72 and 1972-73 when they were able to record surpluses. But it was only a superficial surplus. I will explain this. In 1971-72, again, they were able to increase the freight structure and get Rs. 25.2 crores; and no doubt they were able to show a surplus of Rs. 18 crores. And again during 1972-73 through increase in freight and fare, they were able to collect Rs. 17 crores more and gain a surplus of Rs. 3 crores. In the budgets of 1971-72 and 1972-73 even though they were able to show a meagre surplus of Rs. 18 crores and Rs. 3 crores respectively, it is interesting to note that the surplus in 1971-72 and 1972-73 was mainly due to the dividend relief that was given by the Railway Convention Committee in 1971; and that too with retrospective effect from 1-4-1969. The Railway Convention Committee was able to give them some sort of relief with retrospective effect; and it was of the order of Rs. 21 crores in 1971-72 and of Rs. 24 crores in 1972-73. If we take this into account, we will find that their performance was very poor.

Now about 1973-74. There was again an increase in freight and fare; and they were able to get through it Rs. 43.20 crores; even then the deficit was of the order of Rs. 116 crores. Again we find that during the March 1974 budget, there was an increase in fares and freight; and they were able to have Rs. 136.38 crores mopped up from these additional revenues. Even then their deficit was Rs. 114 crores. Again, in 1974-75 by the supplementary budget they were able to have Rs. 133.47 crores. Both the original budget and the supplementary budget together accounted for a deficit of Rs. 114 crores. Then we come to 1975-76. There is an increase in freight and with that they were able to get Rs. 39 crores and still they had a deficit of Rs. 61 crores. In 1976-77 there was again an increase in freight of the order of Rs. 87.35 crores and for the first time they were able to have a surplus of Rs. 65 crores.

SHRI T. A. PAI (Udipi): Since you are making a political speech, in 1976-77 the surplus was Rs. 65 crores. In 1977-78, on the basis of the same fare and freight, your surplus has been reduced to Rs. 35 crores.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am coming to that point. I have done some home work and I have anticipated your argument. So, I am ready with my answer. They say that in 1976-77 they were able to get Rs. 87.35 crores as increased revenue through increased freight and that provided the basis for the surplus this year. But here I would like to indicate two additional factors. This year we had some additional liabilities, and important liabilities. The depreciation fund and the pension fund provision has been increased by Rs. 10 crores and the extra dividend that we have to pay is Rs. 15 crores, making a total of Rs. 25 crores of additional liability. In spite of this liability, we have been able to have a surplus of Rs. 32.5 crores. Their argument is that last time they had a surplus of Rs. 65 crores and this time we have brought it down to Rs. 32.5 crores. In spite of the fact that the depreciation and the pension funds have been provided an extra sum of Rs. 10 crores, in spite of the fact that we have provided for an extra dividend of Rs. 15 crores, still we have been able to budget a surplus in spite of the fact that there is no increase in freight or fare; on the other hand, there is a decrease in the rate for platform tickets. So, what I am saying is not a political argument at all; it is a financial argument ... *(Interruptions)* Last time I was yielding and every five minutes I was being interrupted. This time I am not yielding, because I have no time.

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

Shri Lakkappa has stated that there is a rumour in Karnataka and elsewhere that the wheel and axle plant that was proposed to be set up in the vicinity of Bangalore is likely to be shifted. I want to make a categorical announcement that there is no possibility of shifting this plant from the vicinity of Bangalore. This particular plant is necessary in view of the fact that even when we completely absorb the capacity of the Durgapur and TISCO plants, they will not be able to fulfil our need for wheels and axles. Therefore, there is no question of shifting this plant from the vicinity of Bangalore at all.

Since some of the Members were not present in the House, I want to repeat the categorical announcement which I made two days ago. The promotion prospects of certain categories of Class IV staff in the railways are not adequate, considering this, it has been decided to introduce suitable selection grades to the extent of 20 per cent of the sanctioned posts of Class IV in the non-technical service of the railways. This will benefit 50,000 Class IV employees in the Indian railways. It has also been decided that these selection grades will be applied retrospectively from 1st August, 1976.

I will take this opportunity to make another important announcement, and that is regarding firemen. Firemen are a category on the railways who have suffered the most. They have to stand the heat of the engines and work. There has been a grievance among Firemen "B" grade about lack of promotion. I have decided that all the existing vacancies of Firemen "A" grade up to 3-3-77 should be filled after due screening, by promoting Firemen "B" grade in the order of seniority. I have also decided that in future the promotional quota for Firemen 'B' grade will be raised from 25 to 50 per cent. Direct recruitment of Firemen "A" grade will be done only when no suitable matriculates in Firemen "B" grade are available.

Some Members have suggested that the speed of steam engine goods trains has considerably gone down. I would like the House to know the break-up of steam and other traction in goods trains. In 1960-61, 94 per cent of the goods trains were hauled by steam engines and only 6 per cent by electric and diesel engines. In 1975-76 goods traffic hauled by steam engines was only 32 per cent, and 68 per cent was by diesel and electric traction. When 94 per cent of the goods trains were hauled by steam engines, some of them were moving fast, eliminating stations, some were like passenger trains, moving very slowly and, therefore, the average speed of the engines was very high. Now with only 32 per cent of the engines being steam, they stop at almost every halt, with the result that the average speed has come down.

Dr. Sushila Nayar has made a number of constructive suggestions regarding cleanliness, provision of reading lights, railway hospitals, health services in the railways, preventive steps relating to health, re-sale of property stolen from the railways to themselves etc. We will take note of all these suggestions and the necessary things will be done.

I have already said that categorical instructions have been issued as far as the use of saloons is concerned. Not to talk of Ministers, no officer will be permitted to travel in a saloon when he goes on tour or inspection where an ordinary vehicle will do. Saloons are inspection coaches and they will be used only when the track has to be inspected at a distant place where there is no arrangement of boarding and lodging. Otherwise, when they go on tours or picnics or to attend conferences the saloon cannot be used. That is an over-riding order that has been issued, and I assure the House that I will see to it that this is followed. Whatever saloons are left out, we will convert them into second class passenger coaches so that the capacity of the second class coaches can be increased.

16.00 hrs.

A question was raised about complimentary passes. I wish to announce that some time back I have given strict instructions that whenever the term of such passes are over, they will stand cancelled. I will come before the House and lay a statement on the Table of the House indicating what are the institutions to which complimentary passes will be given, what norms will be set up and everything will be known to the Members.

Regarding stalls and other things, whatever has been said by the hon. Members, I have endorsed those things in my earlier speech and, therefore, I do not wish to repeat them.

Regarding West Coast and Eranakulam Alleppey railway, we have already taken a final decision at the ministerial level we have included the West Coast for the final technical and feasibility survey also. As soon as we get clearance from the Planning Commission, we shall move ahead. I am happy that both sides of the House have identical views on this point.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Our time is being encroached.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Today, you are only introducing the Bills.

Therefore, I would suggest that another ten minutes may be taken on this subject.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: (Coimbatore): He has not said anything about road transport.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have made a specific reference to that. It will be our constant endeavour to see that in cooperation and coordination with all the Ministries concerned an integrated approach towards the transport policy will be adopted.

I will conclude by referring to some demands that have been made by my colleague, Shri Bhadoriaji. I just want to assure him that I believe in collective responsibility and whatever proposals and suggestions he has made I shall place them before my colleagues in the Cabinet and he shall rest assured that the moment my colleagues feel that I should not continue as the Railway Minister, Madhu Dandavate will not be found in the Railway Minister's chair even for a second.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, I shall take up cut motions. I shall put Shri Rajagopal Naidu's cut motion.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): Why not put all the cut motions together?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If the hon. Members so desire I have no objection. Now, I will put all the cut motions together.

Cut Motions Nos. 3 to 9, 14 to 18, 21 to 59, 62, 63, 66 to 137 and 140 to 167, were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

> "That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1978, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 1 to 11, 11A and 12 to 22."

The motion was adopted.

Demands for Grants (Railways), 1977-78 Voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on Account voted by the House on 29-3-1977	Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Railway Board	84,24,000	1,67,64,000
2	Miscellaneous Expenditure	4,05,33,000	8,11,51,000
3	Payments to Worked Lines and others	15,56,000	31,12,000
4	Working Expenses—Administration	52,79,80,000	105,89,59,000
5	Working Expenses—Repairs and Maintenance	221,48,94,000	446,09,88,000
6	Working Expenses—Operating Staff	112,91,45,000	227,45,89,000
7	Working Expenses—Operation (Fuel)	109,28,16,000	224,99,86,000
8	Working Expenses—Operation other than Staff and Fuel	36,53,76,000	74,57,52,000
9	Working Expenses—Miscellaneous Expenses	19,58,56,000	39,17,12,000
10	Working Expenses—Staff Welfare	19,10,53,000	38,21,06,000
11	Working Expenses—Appropriation to Depreciation Reserve Fund	46,66,67,000	93,33,33,000
11A	Working Expenses—Appropriation to Pension Fund	13,33,33,000	26,66,67,000
12	Dividend to General Revenues and Contribution for Grants to States in lieu of Passenger Fare Tax	6,02,13,000	219,30,21,000
13	Open Line Works (Revenue)	2,99,95,000	5,99,90,000
14	Construction of New Lines—Capital and Depreciation Reserve Fund	17,27,44,000	34,54,88,000
15	Open Line Works— Capital, Depreciation Reserve Fund and Development Fund	423,27,15,000	816,60,58,000
16	Pensionary Charges—Pension Fund	12,80,32,000	25,60,64,000
17	Repayment of Loans from General Revenues and interest thereon—Development Fund	..	8,38,96,000
18	Appropriation to Development Fund	..	26,65,66,000
19	Appropriation to Revenue Reserve Fund	..	5,84,02,000
20	Payments towards Amortisation of Over-capitalisation, Repayment of Loans from General Revenues and interest thereon—Revenue Reserve Fund	..	180,55,28,000
21	Appropriation to Accident Compensation, Safety and Passenger Amenities Fund	3,07,61,000	6,15,23,000
22	Accident Compensation, Safety and Passenger Amenities Fund	1,98,33,000	3,96,67,000

16.05 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 2 BILL*, 1977

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1977-78 for the purposes of Railways.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1977-78 for the purposes of Railways."

The motion was adopted.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I introduce† the Bill.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I beg to move†:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1977-78 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1977-78 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We shall now take up the clauses.

The question is:

"That Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.08 hrs.

LOKPAL BILL*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We shall now take up Private Members' Bills.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make provision for the appointment and functions of an authority named the Lokpal for the investigation of administrative acts in certain cases and for matters connected therewith.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provision for the appointment and functions of an authority named the Lokpal for the investigation of administrative acts in certain cases and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. K. DEO: I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 16)

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

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*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 1976-77.

†Introduced/Moved with the recommendation of the Vice-President acting as President.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. K. DEO: I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

Substitution of article 156, etc.)

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. K. DEO: I introduce the Bill.

FOREIGN OWNED PLANTATIONS (NATIONALISATION) BILL*

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Cannanore): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the nationalisation of all the foreign owned plantations in India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the nationalisation of all the foreign owned plantations in India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I introduce the Bill.

COMPULSORY ADULT EDUCATION BILL*

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Cannanore): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for funds and facilities and to set up necessary bodies to ensure compulsory adult education in India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for funds and facilities and to set up necessary bodies to ensure compulsory adult education in India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I introduce† the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of articles 74 and 163)

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Cannanore): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I introduce the Bill.

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*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 17-6-77.

†Introduced with the recommendations of the Vice-President acting as President.

16.12 hrs.

BANKING COMPANIES (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS AMENDMENT BILL*

(Amendment of Sections 3, 4, etc.)

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Cannanore): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970".

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I introduce the Bill.

PUBLICATION AND IMPORT OF POLITICAL LITERATURE BY FOREIGN MISSIONS IN INDIA (REGULATON) BILL*

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate the publication and import of political literature by foreign missions in India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to regulate the publication and import of political literature by foreign missions in India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I introduce the Bill.

APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS BILL*

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): I beg to move for leave to introduced a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Panel of candidates for appointment as Governors of States.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Panel of candidates for appointment as Governors of States."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I introduce the Bill.

FOREIGN PROPAGANDA IN INDIA (REGULATION AND CONTROL) BILL*

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to restrict the motivated political propaganda of foreign countries in India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to restrict the motivated political propaganda of foreign countries in India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I introduce the Bill.

NATIONAL DEFENCE ACADEMY, KHADAKVASALA AND THE INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY, DEHRA DUN (RE-NAMING) BILL*

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to rename the National Defence

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 17-6-77.

[Shri Samar Guha]

Academy Khadakvasala and the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to rename the National Defence Academy, Khadakvasala and the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Omission of Article 370)

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. K. DEO: I introduce the Bill.

PAYMENT OF BONUS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Section 10 and Substitution of Section 20, etc.)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Garasat): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Articles 19 and 326)

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय (मंडसौर) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि मुझे संविधान में संशोधन करने वाले एक विधेयक को पेश करने की अनुमति दी जाए ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय मैं विधेयक को पेश करता हूं ।

ARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Section 2)

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय (मंडसौर) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि मुझे आयुध अधिनियम, 1959 का संशोधन करने के लिए एक विधेयक पेश करने की अनुमति दी जाये

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arms Act, 1959."

The motion was adopted.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : मैं विधेयक को पेश करता हूं ।

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CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 352)

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH (Hoshangabad): I seek in all humility the leave of the House to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H. V. KAMATH: I introduce the bill.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 74)

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्ता (दिल्ली सदर) : मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि मुझे संविधान में संशोधन करने वाले एक विधेयक को पेश करने की अनुमति दी जाये ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्ता: मैं विधेयक को पेश करता हूं ।

PROVIDING OF EMPLOYMENT, PAYMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SCHEME BILL*

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA (Bhavnagar): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for employment to all citizens of not less than 15 years of age, payment of unemployment allowance and for unemployment insurance scheme."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for employment to all citizens of not less than 15 years of age, payment of unemployment allowance and for unemployment insurance scheme."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House stands adjourned till 5P.M. today.

16.18 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned till Seventeen of the Clock.

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The Lok Sabha reassembled at Seventeen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

GENERAL BUDGET, 1977-78

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Finance Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): Sir, I rise to present the Budget for 1977-78, the first Budget to be presented by this the Janata Government.

2. The massive mandate that the people of India gave the Janata Party in March this year was not just a vote against authoritarianism. It was also a manifestation of our people's desire for a reorientation and a reshaping of our economic policies so as to bring about speedy elimination of poverty and destitution. In the last few weeks, our Government has taken several steps to dismantle the authoritarian and repressive structure erected during the dark days of Emergency. It is our firm belief that the open society we cherish will remain insecure unless we can move forward with courage and sincerity to banish poverty, ignorance and disease from this ancient land of ours. Our Party's election manifesto sets out a coherent economic strategy, laying emphasis on both bread and liberty. We seek to accelerate the pace of economic progress and to distribute its fruits equitably in a framework of democracy and individual freedom. Judging by historical precedents, this is no doubt a highly challenging task. The House can rest assured that there shall be no weakening of our solemn resolve to work for the fulfilment of promises we have made to our people.

3. The Budget of the Central Government is a major instrument for shaping the country's social and economic polices. Both because of shortage of time as also because of heavy commitments of expenditure on ongoing projects, it has not been possible for me to recast the entire fiscal structure in line with our declared priorities. Also, I did not have the benefit of consultations with the Planning Commission, which has been reconstituted only recently. Our Party's social and economic programme lays heavy emphasis on rural development, improvement of the lot of Harijans, Adivasis and other downtrodden sections, eradication of unemployment and expansion of social services including slum clearance. Most of the projects in these areas fall in the State Plans. For reasons which are well known to this House, it has not been practicable for me to consult State Governments and to induce them to reorient their development programmes in accordance with our priorities. Nevertheless, within the framework of the rather limited options open to me, I have endeavoured so to formulate my budget proposals that they reflect faithfully the philosophy, programmes and priorities of our election manifesto.

4. Before I outline the broad strategy that has been adopted, I would like to share with the House my thoughts on the current state and prospects of our economy. The Economic Survey has covered this ground fairly extensively, and I shall therefore be brief in my remarks on this subject.

5. The most fundamental problem of the Indian economy continues to be its inadequate rate of economic growth. In 1976-77, the rate of our economic growth was less than 2 per cent. In the seventies thus far, our growth rate has average about 3.5 per cent. per annum, far too short of our Plan targets. And yet, while it would be wrong to assert that our country has not made significant progress since independence, the fact remains that, even after twenty-five years of planning, we are unable to sustain an average growth rate of 5 per cent. Clearly, a fresh examination of our planning priorities and techniques is called for.

6. Another disturbing feature of the economic situation is the uneven

distribution of growth, which has accentuated regional disparities in the level of development. While a number of States have recorded impressive growth rates during the last fifteen years, it is also a fact and a matter for serious concern that in this very period, nearly one-third of districts have recorded virtually no growth, or negative rates of growth, in output. The poor performance of these districts has both depressed the national growth rate and also led to a widening of disparities in the level of development, a phenomenon which has disturbing implications for the successful functioning our federal polity.

7. A significant consequence of low and unevenly distributed growth has been that the proportion of people living below the poverty line is today higher than it was in 1960-61. The available data show that this proportion had tended to decline from 1968-69 to 1973-74, but in all probability the situation has deteriorated since then. The magnitude of the problem can be assessed from the fact that in 1975-76, the economy did not have the capacity to absorb the production of even 120 million tonnes of foodgrains. The low level of purchasing power is a reflection of the chronic state of underemployment and unemployment which is faced by large numbers of landless workers and small and marginal farmers. The fact that the proportion of people living below the poverty line today is higher than in 1960-61 strengthens me in my belief that there is need for a fundamental change in our economic policies and programmes. The status quo has disastrous implications for our future and our people are rightly clamouring for a redirection of our policies. To this task, this Government is fully committed.

8. Rising prices have further accentuated the hardships faced by the common man. As the House knows, the wholesale price index went up by nearly 12 per cent in 1976-77. This was due, in a large measure, to an excessive increase in money supply last year, the lagged effects of which are still operating in the economy. Although we have inherited a difficult price situation caused by distortions introduced in 1976-77, we are determined to bring the situation fully under control. We have both the will as well as the necessary instruments to stabilise prices at a reasonable level.

9. It is a truism that in a country in which agriculture accounts for nearly 50 per cent. of national income, the overall growth rate of the economy is crucially linked to the performance of the agricultural sector. The poor performance of the economy in 1976-77 was largely because of the decline in our agricultural production.

10. In the late sixties, Indian agriculture did exhibit signs of a new dynamism. Unfortunately, the modernising impulses made only a limited impact on our agrarian economy. This is evident from the fact that the rate of growth of agricultural production in the 1970s was not higher than in the 1960s. Wheat is the only crop in respect of which there has been a rapid increase in production, but even there, the rate of growth of productivity has greatly slackened in recent years. In the case of rice, there have been impressive gains in non-traditional States, but in major rice growing States there has been no breakthrough in yields. Crops like pulses vegetable oilseeds and raw cotton show a stagnant trend. Clearly, we have to introduce some new growth impulses into our agrarian economy, if we are to succeed in raising the agricultural growth rate to a minimum level of 4 per cent per annum.

11. Our development plans had hitherto deliberately laid emphasis on industrialisation. And we have also made significant progress in diversifying our industrial structure. Yet, judging by the fact that industrial growth rate since 1965 has averaged only 4 per cent. as compared with the

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average annual growth rate of 8 percent. from 1956 to 1964, the decade since 1965 can hardly be described as a decade of progress in industrialisation. That an increasing emphasis on industrialisation should have coincided with a decline in the rate of industrial growth is a phenomenon which calls for careful examination. In 1976-77, industrial growth rate did increase to 10 per cent. However, there is ample evidence to suggest that this was due to a number of fortuitous circumstances so that favourable results of 1976-77 cannot be taken as indicative of a more cheerful trend.

12. Both because of inadequate growth rate and growing capital intensity of industry, India's industrial structure has been unable to provide a fast enough expansion of employment opportunities. As a result, the number of unemployed people on the live registers of employment exchanges has risen sharply. A high cost industrial structure catering to a highly sheltered domestic market must necessarily find it increasingly difficut to expand in the face of the constraint of a limited home market.

13. In the last two years, while India's exports have increased rapidly, imports during 1976-77 were restrained both on account of the bumper harvest of 1975-76 and increased domestic production of such critical inputs as fertilisers. The rapid increase in inward remittances has given added strength to India's balance of payments and our reserves have gone up considerably. Nevertheless, we would be foolish if we did not take note of the fact that our balance of payment still remains vulnerable to the effects of sudden shocks. such as harvest fluctuations. The current level of food stocks and foreign exchange reserves do give us wider options in the management of the economy than ever before. Foreign exchange reserves will have to be so deployed as to assist in the maintenance of price stability, as also in accelerating the process of growth.

14. The task ahead is to devise an effective strategy for dealing with the problems of inadequate growth, crushing poverty, unemployment, growing regional imbalances and rising prices. These are all interrelated problems and have to be tackled simultaneously, though the emphasis laid at any given period of time may vary in degree.

15. It goes without saying that in any strategy we devise, the primacy of agriculture has to be emphasised. In a country in which nearly 89 per cent of the people live in rural areas, a faster increase in agricultural productivity is almost a precondition of any successful programme for removal of poverty, of enlarging employment opportunities, for stabilising prices of essential goods and for expanding the domestic market for manufactured goods. The primacy of agriculture implies that investment requirements of agriculture would be given the highest priority. In spite of the importance of agriculture and the repeated avowal of the need to improve the condition of rural India, the rural sector has in the past not received a fair share of total investible resources. This needs to be rectified. Currently, irrigation potential is growing at an annual rate of about 2 million hectares. We have to evolve a plan to be able to double this rate in the next few years. Both major and medium and minor irrigation works must be planned and executed as part of an optimal national strategy for water use. Similarly, there is an urgent need for stepping up investment in such crucial elements of rural infrastructure as roads, markets, and supply of pure drinking water.

16. The programme of agricultural development will have to be conceived not merely in terms of increase in agricultural productivity but also in terms of making all the households in the agricultural sector more or less viable. This will require simultaneou-

sly, plans for development of ancillary activities like poultry and dairy farming, fisheries, farm forestry, etc. Not only will this involve the provision of necessary inputs but also the development of organisations which will collect, store and market the produce, for efficient marketing is vital to the success of all these varied activities. We must generate large enough employment opportunities in rural areas so as to slow down migration to urban areas. This can best be achieved in the framework of an area-centred programme of integrated rural development, in which the needs of small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers receive priority attention.

17. The provision of more resources, howsoever vital, will not alone achieve the objective. The entire apparatus for utilising these resources will have to be completely revamped in order to improve their effectiveness. It will require changes in the organisation for both planning and implementation. It will need more intensive effort at improving agricultural technology and much greater extension effort. It will need speedier construction of dams, wells and channels, faster and efficient rural electrification, better water and land management, more timely supply of fertilisers and pesticides, a more organised supply of seeds and better storage and marketing facilities. Parts of the country have been able to achieve this. What is needed is the spreading of such organisation, together with requisite resources, to those parts which are lagging behind. The effort needed would call for a total transformation of the agencies which are presently connected with agricultural development.

18. Primacy of agriculture does not imply indifference towards, or neglect of, modern industry. All that it implies is that, in so far as a larger proportion of investible resources available to the public sector is diverted to agricultural development, resources for industrial growth will have to be found increasingly by enterprises themselves generating larger internal resources of their own through more efficient operation as well as more effective pricing policies. Government will also continue to pay particular attention to the development of industries such as fertilisers, pesticides, cement, power and petroleum which have an important bearing on agricultural productivity. In order to create greater cost consciousness in Indian industry, it is our intention to introduce, gradully, more competition by way of more liberal import policy. In addition, ways and means will be found to make possible optimal use of capacity in existence. Simultaneously, in executing new projects, we must avoid delays which lead to escalation of capital costs. It is usually not realised how great is the cost of these delays. An analysis for cost escalations in 18 projects which had secured the approval in 1976-77 of the Public Investment Board shows that, in these projects, investment costs had increased to Rs. 555 crores as against the original estimate of about Rs. 225 crores. This serves to emphasise the importance of timely execution of projects and extremely high social cost of delay.

19. Some of our large industries, such as textiles, are today in serious trouble and are in particular need of replacement and modernisation. Therefore, adequate resources will have to be provided for investment in these sectors. The present arrangements which the Industrial Development Bank of India and the other term lending institutions have for this purpose will have to be continued. Also, efforts have to be made to ensure that these industries generate more internal funds and, thus do not face conditions which ultimately make them sick. I believe it might be a good idea, if the managements of more efficient mills were to be prevailed upon to take over, as an act of social responsibility, some of the sick units and nurse them back into sound health under conditions to be laid down by Government.

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20. Faster and timely development of power is an essential condition of accelerated economic progress. I am convinced that much more remains to be done in respect of both power planning and development if we are not to have to face recurring severe shortages of power. Power is now recognised to be as essential to agriculture as to industry and shortages of power can disrupt the production of food as much as of cloth. We shall therefore make every effort to hasten the pace of expansion of power in the coming years.

21. There is another field, however, in which modern industry needs to be developed further and that is the field of exports. Experience has now been gained with regard to marketing a wide variety of manufactured goods, particularly engineering goods, in foreign markets. Since this is the field in which world trade is growing fastest, we should push ahead in this area. This means building up more capacity, acquiring suitable know-how and adopting even better marketing techniques. While I do not regard export led growth as a viable proposition in Indian conditions, it is necessary that exports should continue to increase at the rate they have been growing in the past two years. Such an increase is essential for acquiring greater manoeuvrability with regard to economic management. Government is committed to providing a stable policy framework conducive to continued expansion of our exports. Simultaneously, it is our solemn resolve to deal firmly with smugglers and other anti-social elements indulging in illegal dealings in foreign exchange. Fortunately, judging by recent data on inward remittances, smuggling does not seem to have revived on any large scale. We shall, nevertheless, remain vigilant in this matter.

22. Since unemployment is one of our most pressing problems, the greatest attention needs to be given to its solution. By now, it is obvious that this problem cannot be solved through exclusive reliance on industrialisation. New strategies have, therefore, to be evolved to provide gainful employment on a large scale in the rural areas themselves. The accelerated growth of agricultural production will in itself increase the scope for employment in the rural areas. It is interesting to note that labour input per acre of land in Japan is four times the corresponding level in India. This is an indication of the scope for generating new employment opportunities in the process of modernising our agriculture. More irrigation, better cultural practices, double-cropping, increased use of fertilisers and weeding will certainly create more jobs, but it will have to be ensured that premature mechanisation does not affect this process adversely. Faster agricultural growth will offer greater scope for employment in such ancillary activities as repairing, servicing, transportation, etc. Simultaneously, greater attention will have to be paid to the development of rural infrastructure, particularly the construction of rural roads. Proper marketing of agricultural produce cannot take place if there is no adequate network of roads connecting our villages to the nearest marketing centres. Deliberate steps will also have to be taken to facilitate processing of local produce so as provide more employment in rural areas. Gandhiji's idea of self-reliant rural communities will have to be given concrete shap if an effective solution is to be found to the problem of unemployment.

23. The development of small scale industry should also enable us to make a significant dent in the problem of unemployment. Such industry should not be a scaled-down version of large industry but should be one which uses technology which is appropriate to our conditions of surplus labour and scarce capital. Although there has been a great deal of talk of appropriate technology, it is surprising how little effort we have put into its development. For example, the bullock-cart remains and will remain for many years to come an important means of transport in rural areas.

Yet, it is only very recently that we have started thinking about improving its effectiveness. Unfortunately, insufficient resources have been devoted to the development of appropriate technology. We have always gone after the most modern technology even though it may not necessarily have been the most efficient for us. This trend needs to be reversed.

24. We do not however have to wait for appropriate technology in order to make a beginning in this field. The experience of handlooms and powerlooms shows how modern organisation and marketing methods can breath life into labour intensive industry. More work along these lines should be tried with regard to a number of cottage and village industries in order to combine greater employment with efficiency.

25. The problem of unemployment in urban areas, particularly among the educated persons, is no less serious. The House will be happy to know that we are now working on the details of a specific scheme designed to create opportunities for the educated unemployed. Under this scheme, we shall provide through the banking system "seed" money and other finance at relatively attractive rates of interest to enterprising youngmen considered eligible for assistance.

26. The beneficial effects of a high rate of economic growth can easily be neutralised by an increase in population. Therefore, population control has to be an integral part of our programme of raising the standard of living of the common man. Unfortunately, the events of the past two years have given the family planning programme a severe setback just when it was beginning to be generally accepted even in backward areas. This programme is so vital to our economic progress and well-being that all possible efforts must be made in a sustained way to persuade people to accept the small family norm. Any investment, therefore, that is necessary for this purpose should be undertaken without any hesitation. And because it is our firm determination to achieve our objectives through persuasion rather than coercion, the effort that will have to be put in will have to be greater and more sustained.

27. The success of the programme I have been talking about depends upon adequate resources being available. Other countries which have achieved high rates of growth have been able to invest as much as 30 per cent of national income because of their high volume of savings. The Indian experience has been otherwise. Voluntary savings have been inadequate. Attempts to push up the rate of domestic savings through created money and deficit financing have accentuated inflationary pressures but have not succeeded in raising the savings rate. Thus, some fresh thinking is necessary regarding the means of enlarging the pool of national savings in a non-inflationary manner.

28. It is doubtful if taxation alone can achieve such an increase. High direct tax rates have been found to be counter-productive because of the evasion that ensues, and, in any case, the number of people who fall in the direct tax net is so small that revenue realisation cannot match requirements. Indirect taxation seems also to have reached its limit.

29. Resource mobilisation by the Government through taxes has increased continuously over the years and at present tax revenue as percentage of national income is as high as 18.9. But public saving has not gone up because non-developmental expenditure such as interest charges, salaries and wages, dearness allowance to employees, defence expenditure and subsidies etc., have gone up more than proportionately. In addition, public sector enterprises have not been earning, until recently, adequate return chiefly because of deficiencies of management and improper pricing policies. Some of those short-

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comings will have to be removed if public saving is to increase and contribute to larger investment.

30. Individual saving can be promoted better if austerity is practised much more effectively. A large part of the increase in consumption arises from the demonstration effect of the high standard of living of the wealthy and the well-to-do in our society. To neutralise all this, greater egalitarianism in consumption needs to be practised. Our tax system has to be so reoriented as to discourage ostentatious living and promote the habit of savings. However, austerity cannot be ushered in merely through tax reform. We must arouse public opinion against a life style inconsistent with the harsh economic realities of a poor country such as ours.

31. Government has been greatly concerned about the price situation ever since it came into office. The persistence of the rising tendency in prices witnessed during the last few weeks has been due partly to the cumulative effect of imbalances introduceed last year, and partly due to the seasonal presure which is unevoidable during this part of the year. I cannot hold out the promise that Government will be able to stabilise every single price in face of fluctuations in demand or supply which are inevitable. However, I can assure the House that we have taken steps, and will continue to do so, to ensure reasonable price stability in respect of basic articles of mass consumption. We have enough stocks of food grains to meet all genuine requirements at stable prices. We have inherited a difficult situation regarding vegetable oils. As the House knows, because of a steep fall in production of groundnuts last year, prices of vegetable oils have been rising for quite some time. Unfortunately, groundnut oil cannot be readily imported so that our ability to operate directly on the supply of this oil is rather limited. However, we have arranged for adequate imports of other vegetable oils. These should help to stabilise the price of cooking media. Increased availability of vanaspati and refined rapeseed oil meant for direct consumption would indirectly ease pressure on prices of groundnut oil. We have adequate stocks of sugar to enable us to meet all reasonable demands at stable prices. We are now working on the details of a new multifibre policy designed to make available quality cloth at prices within the reach of the common man. Such a policy, if successful, would have the additional advantage of restoring to health all segments of India's largest industry.

Budget Estimates

32. I now turn to the Budget Estimates. The documents which I am presenting today repeat the Revised Estimates for 1976-77 as given in the interim Budget, as the actuals are not yet available in most cases.

33. As regards the Budget Estimates for the current year, gross tax revenues at existing rates of taxation are estimated at Rs. 8879 crores, showing an increase of Rs. 798 crores over the Revised Estimates for 1976-77. Of the increase, Rs. 101 crores will accrue to the States as their share of taxes. While Union Excise Duties are expected to yield Rs. 4550 crores, showing an increase of Rs. 373 crores over the Revised Estimates for last year, receipts from Income and Corporation taxes are estimated at Rs. 2258 crores, an increase of Rs. 180 crores. Customs receipts at Rs. 1734 crores will be higher by Rs. 243 crores as compared to last year.

34. Market loans are expected to yield Rs. 1000 crores as compared to Rs. 849 crores in the previous year. Besides, Government propose to borrow Rs. 800 crores against drawal of foreign exchange reserves.

35. Net external assistance, after providing for repayments and interest

payments, is estimated at Rs. 1052 crores, including disbursements against new credits.

36. Taking other receipts into account, total receipts in the current year are estimated at Rs. 15366 crores.

37. I may now make a brief mention of the estimates of non-Plan expenditure. While presenting the interim Budget, I indicated that all Ministries and Departments of Government and public sector agencies will be asked to observe the utmost economy in expenditure, keeping in view the present Government's emphasis on austerity and avoidance of all forms of ostentation. Detailed instructions have since been issued in this regard for strict compliance by all Ministries and Departments. The full impact of the economy measures will be known only after the detailed exercises have been completed. Separately, certain areas of non-essential expenditure have already been identified and the Budget documents reflect a reduction of about Rs. 130 crores in these expenditures as a result of this exercise.

38. The provision for Defence expenditure is Rs. 2752 crores, Rs. 56 crores less than the provision made in the interim Budget. The provision for food subsidy and carrying costs of buffer stocks has been, for the present, retained at Rs. 461 crores, but it will be reviewed on the basis of emerging trends during the course of the year.

39. In its scheme of devolution, the Sixth Finance Commission could not take into account the net interest liability of States on account of loans raised and disbursed by them during the Fifth Plan period for want of details. As recommended by that Commission, the net interest liability of the deficit States has been computed and a provision of Rs. 72 crores has been made in the Budget for disbursement of additional grants-in-aid to the States concerned on this account, in relation to the three years ending on 31st March, 1977.

40. I have received requests from Central Government pensioners for increase in the quantum of relief on their pensions in view of the high cost of living. As the House is aware, a measure of relief has been afforded from time to time in the past. I feel it would be only fair at this stage to grant a special relief at graded rates to them; this will cost the exchequer Rs. 10 crores annually.

41. I now turn to the outlays on the Annual Plan for 1977-78. As I have already indicated, we are firmly of the view that our economic ills can be overcome only through a comprehensive reordering of Plan priorities. The Plan strategy has to be reappraised. It should recognise the primacy of agriculture and accord overriding priority to rural development and eradication of unemployment within a time frame. These are the tasks to which our reconstituted Planning Commission will no doubt address itself. That, however, will take some time. In the meanwhile it is necessary for the Government to move in the desired direction. That is what this Budget seeks to do.

42. Within the short time available to us, we have therefore made a quick review in consultation with various Ministries of the outlays in the Annual Plan for 1977-78, and tried to impart, to the extent possible, a new direction to our development programmes in line with the priorities and objectives set out in the Manifesto of the Janata Party. We are, however, not writing on a clean slate. Schemes in progress cannot be abandoned, nor even slowed down unduly, without considerable financial loss. The commitments made to State Governments in regard to Central assistance for their Plans have also to be honoured subject to the conditions stipulated by the Planning Commission at the time of the finalisation of their Plans. These commitments do impose serious limitations in refashioning the Plan according to our thinking. The room for manoeuvrability is thus limited. Even so, appreci-

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able saving have been effected. Schemes of relatively low priority have been suitably rephased.

43. True to the promises made to the people, in the recast Plan, we have now provided for additional outlays for agriculture, irrigation, power, khadi and village industries, sericulture, handlooms, postal and telephone facilities in rural areas and wide ranging rural infrastructure programmes covering, among other things, such schemes as durable link roads and rural drinking water supply. It is our intention to step up further the outlays next year on programmes designed to develop rural infrastructure facilities so that over a period of, say, five years the basic needs of the entire rural population could be met. It is also our intention to review the programmes of slum clearance and urban renewal in consultation with the States and to provide additional resources for accelerating the pace of execution of these programmes.

44. The allocation from the Central Budget in 1977-78 for the Central Plan and assistance towards Plans of States and Union territories will be Rs. 5790 crores. The corresponding figure for the previous year was Rs. 4759 crores. The tempo of development is thus being maintained.

45. The provision for the Plan in the Central Budget is inclusive of Rs. 1812 crores on account of Central assistance for State Plans and provisions for Union territories Plans, the sub-plan of the Hills and Tribal Areas, The North-Eastern Council, and assistance to the Rural Electrification Corporation for power schemes. This allocation also includes an element of special advance Plan assistance to States to provide them adequate resources for the required level of investment in important projects in the core sectors of irrigation and power. A provision of Rs. 3978 crores has been made in the Budget towards Central Plan. Inclusive of the internal and other resources of public undertakings, the Central Plan will be of the order of Rs. 4939 crores in 1977-78 as against Rs. 4090 crores in 1976-77. The State and Union territories Plans together will be of the order of Rs. 5021 crores, as against Rs. 3762 crores in 1976-77. The total outlay on the annual Plans of the Centre, States and Union territories for 1977-78 will be Rs. 9960 crores, as against Rs. 7852 crores in 1976-77. This represents an increase of 27 per cent.

46. We feel that for building a forward looking, dynamic and diversified agricultural economy, it is necessary to aim at integrated development of crop production, livestock and poultry, fisheries and forestry. Special emphasis will need to be laid on development of dairy industry on a cooperative basis a view to enabling milk producers to get better and fair prices. Creditable progress has been made in the first phase of Operation Flood Scheme and we must now get moving to take the full advantage of Operation Flood Phase II. The production policy should be based on modernisation of agriculture in which technology should, by far, be the most crucial input to make a sustained and high growth rate possible. The existing Plan provisions and priorities have been rephased with a view to locating gaps in development and identifying the potential areas where increased investments could bring about further acceleration of the pace of agricultural growth. In this exercise we have kept in view the need for (a) strengthening rural infrastructure as a basis for future accelerated development, (b) generation of employment in rural areas, (c) special attention to the needs of the weaker sections of the society, and (d) giving a fillip to the production of cotton, oil seeds and pulses so as to correct the supply and demand imbalances. A pilot project for desert development in Haryana, Gujarat and Rajasthan is being

evolved and provision has been made for this purpose in the Budget Estimates.

47. Irrigation holds the key to increased agricultural production. Though the Fifth Plan evisages a target of 5.8 million hectares to be brought under irrigation, the financial outlays do not match the target. Further, the need for initiating action in the current Plan on new irrigation projects, so as to have an adequate pipeline of projects has been neglected. Greater emphasis will also have to be laid on modernisation of irrigation projects so as to conserve water, which is a scarce resource. Keeping all these ends in view, we propose to provide Rs. 100 crores as advance Plan assistance to States for irrigation projects.

48. The Plan outlays for minor irrigation will be supplemented to the extent of about Rs. 260 crores from the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation, and other lending institutions. Under the programme of rural electrification for energising the pump sets, we have made a provision of Rs. 175 crores which will also be augmented to a significant extent by institutional finance.

49. The total Plan outlay on agriculture and allied services, major, medium and minor irrigation projects and fertilisers, together with provisions for cooperatives and power sectors attributable to rural areas, works out to Rs. 3024 crores. The House will be glad to know that this constitutes 30.4 per cent of the aggregate outlay of the Central, State and Union territories Plans.

50. While the development of National and State highways has received reasonably adequate attention in successive Plans, the needs of rural areas have been sadly neglected. I feel that the Centre should take initiative in promoting the construction of approach roads which constitute an essential ingredient of any programme for building up the infrastructure for rural development. We therefore propose to make a beginning with an outlay of Rs. 20 crores which, suitably supplemented with the resources of the State Governments and local bodies, will accelerate the programme in this vital area. The new scheme of 'grain for work' could also be utilised imaginatively for this purpose.

51. Despite three decades of planning, there are still a large number of villages which suffer very acute scarcity of drinking water. While the responsibility for finding resources and execution of the programmes for this purpose is that of the State Governments, I feel that the Central Government should also intervene actively and supplement the efforts of the States. Such supplementary assistance should be directed towards provision of drinking water facilities in problem villages to be identified with reference to objective criteria. We propose to make an earnest start in the current year with an additional provision of Rs. 40 crores over and above the existing outlays for this programme. Progressively, the allocations for this programme would be stepped up so as to carry the benefits of the programme to all the problem villages over a period of five years. The programme will have to be closely monitored at the Central as well as the State level.

52. I would also like to refer here to schemes for the welfare of Harijans, Advisis and other less advanced sections of our people. As I have said earlier, these find a place largely in State Plans. I am not satisfied with the programmes and allocations in respect of them and it is my intention to take up these matters on a priority basis with State Governments and Central Ministries concerned so as to add to the effectiveness of these programmes.

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53. A sum of Rs. 234 crores has been provided in the Central Plan for power development. This includes Rs. 33 crores for Singrauli Super Thermal Station, Rs. 1 crore for initiating action on a second Super Thermal Power Station, Rs. 17 crores for inter-State transmission lines, and Rs. 52 crores for nuclear power projects. The State and Union territories Plans, which account for the bulk of the provision for power, envisage an outlay of Rs 1676 crores. An additional sum of Rs. 20 crores is being provided to the Rural Electrification Corporation for systems improvement and for providing I. T. Capacitors for rural consumers, both designed to minimise loss of energy.

54. Self-sufficiency in energy has assumed critical importance. The provision in the Plan for petroleum is being accordingly stepped up from Rs. 485 crores in 1976-77 to Rs. 677 crores in 1977-78. Of this Rs. 451 crores will be provided to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission for their onshore exploration programme and for accelerating the pace of off-shore exploration. We have recently cleared the scheme for development of oil and natural gas resources of Bombay High and Bassein fields. Indigenous production of crude oil is expected to reach 11.31 million tonnes in 1977-78 as compared with 8.89 million tonnes in 1976-77.

55. Having regard to the difficult power situation of Tamil Nadu, a special provision of Rs. 5 crores has been made for Neyveli Lignite Corporation for a new lignite based power plant with a capacity of 250 MW.

56. After taking into account the feasibility of rephasing the expansion programmes of the Bhilai and Bokaro complexes, a budgetary allocation of Rs. 511 crores has been made for steel as compared with Rs. 408 crores in 1976-77.

57. The budgetary allocation for transport and communications will be Rs. 651 crores, of which Rs. 302 crores will be for the Railways which have Plan outlay of Rs 480 crores. A provision of Rs. 10 crores has been made for metropolitan transport projects, of which Rs. 8.6 crores is for the Mass Rapid Transit Project of Calcutta. A part of the Sixth Corridor Project for rapid mass transit system in Bombay has also been sanctioned.

58. The Plan for communications, including Posts and Telegraphs, has been modified to take into account the priority requirements of rural areas. Accordingly, an additional outlay of Rs. 10 crores has been provided for opening more post offices and extension of telephone and telegraph facilities in rural areas.

59. It is our belief that khadi and village industries, if they are properly organised and supported, are capable of generating employment on a large scale. A provision of Rs. 35 crores has been made for these programmes in the Plan, with the understanding that more funds will be allocated, if required. It is expected that the schemes in view will provide employment for about 25 lakh persons.

60. An outlay of Rs. 20 crores is provided for handloom and Rs. 4 crores for sericulture which is a substantial step up over last year. These additional outlays have been made with a view to giving a fillip to these rural and labour intensive industries.

61. Taking into account the expenditure both on Plan and non-Plan counts and the estimated receipts at existing levels of taxation, the Budget for the current year shows a deficit of Rs. 202 crores.

Direct Taxes

62. I shall now address myself to the task of formulating proposals for covering the deficit to the extent feasible.

63. The proposals, in so far as direct taxes are concerned, which I am presenting before you, are designed to increase corporate savings, channel more funds into productive investment, accelerate the pace of investment, auelerate the pace of time, strengthen the redistributive role that direct taxes, to my mind must be made to play.

64. In so far as indirect taxes are concerned, I have endeavoured to ensure that my proposals do not impinge on the necessities of life. There, I have sought to raise resources, in the main, from the less essential or luxury items, while giving relief to some deserving sectors, and simplifying and rationalizing the central excise tariff structure generally.

65. In fulfilment of an assurance in the Janata Party manifesto, I propose to provide that no income-tax shall be payable by individuals and Hindu undivided families whose taxable income does not exceed Rs. 10,000. In order, however, to keep the sacrifice of revenue to the minimum, the nil rate slab of income is being retained at Rs. 8,000. Hence, where the taxable income exceeds Rs. 10,000, the excess over Rs. 8,000 will be charged to tax as at present subject to the grant of marginal relief in cases where the taxable income exceeds Rs. 10,000 by a small margin.

66. I do not propose to make any change in the basic rates of income-tax. However, in view of the imperative need to raise additional resources, I propose to increase the rate of surcharge on income-tax in the case of all categories of taxpayers, except companies, from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. With the increase in the rate of surcharge, the maximum marginal rate of personal income-tax will now be 69 per cent., as against 66 per cent. at present.

67. It is my feeling that wealth-tax rates were reduced in the Budget of 1976 to an unjustifiable extent. If the essential objective of a wealth-tax is to be achieved, it must be so devised that while it does not become oppressive and counter-productive, it does have an effect on excessive accumulation of wealth in individual hands. In this view of the matter, I propose to raise the rates of wealth-tax. The existing rate of half per cent. will continue unchanged on the first Rs. 2.5 lakhs of net wealth, but for the higher slabs there will be an increase of half a per cent over the existing rates, while in the highest slab of over Rs. 15 lakhs, the new rate will be three and a half per cent. that is, an increase of one per cent. over the existing rate. There will be corresponding changes in the rates applicable to Hindu undivided families having one or more members with net wealth exceeding Rs. 1 lakh. The new rate schedule will come into force from the current assessment year and will thus supersede the changes made last year in the rate schedule. These changes will result in an additional revenue of about Rs. 10 crores in 1977-78.

68. As Hon'ble Members are aware, Government have already dispensed with the Compulsory Deposit Scheme in its application to additional dearness allowance as from 6th May, 1977. Having regard, however, to the state of the economy and the inflationary pressures that exist, I propose to continue the Compulsory Deposit Scheme for Income-tax Payers for another two years.

69. With a view to stimulating industrial development and economic growth, I consider it desirable to widen the scope of the scheme of investment allowance introduced last year. That scheme has unfortunately not laid down any well-defined and clear criteria for selecting industries to which the benefit of the concession was to be extended. This made it difficult to explain to those claiming eligibility why some industries had been given the benefit, while it was denied to others. Since there is a need for encouraging generation of internal resources for financing investment, I consider it best to extend the scope of investment allowance to all industries

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except those which are engaged in the manufacture of specified low priority items such as cigarettes, cosmetics and alcoholic beverages. This measure will be of great benefit to the economy.

70. In order to promote scientific and technological self-reliance, I propose to provide an incentive to the users of technical know-how developed in our country. It is accordingly proposed to grant investment allowance at the higher rate of 35 per cent. on machinery and plant installed for the manufacture of any article made in accordance with know-how developed in Government laboratories, public sector companies and universities.

71. From the point of view of maximising expansion of industry, I can see little merit in compelling closely-held industrial companies to distribute a high percentage of their net profits as dividends. I propose, therefore, to exempt such companies from the requirement of compulsory distribution of dividends. I do not propose to extend this relief to all other kinds of closely-held companies.

72. It is my belief that the present structure of capital gains taxation stands in the way of adequate mobility of investible resources, and perpetuates investment in low priority assets. In this view, I am proposing certain changes in our existing scheme of capital gains taxation.

(a) At present capital gains arising from the transfer of a capital asset held by a taxpayer for a period exceeding 60 months alone are entitled to concessional tax treatment. With a view to improving mobility, I propose to reduce the holding period to 36 months.

(b) In respect of capital assets acquired prior to the 1st of January, 1954, a tax-payer has the option of adopting the fair market value of the asset on 1st January, 1954 in place of the actual cost of acquisition. Determination of the fair market value of a capital asset with reference to a date more than 23 years ago presents practical difficulties. Moreover, capital gain arising from the transfer of assets held over a length of time is, in a world of rapid and continuing inflation, to a great extent illusory in nature. On the whole, therefore, it seems to me desirable to advance the notional date by 10 years, namely, to 1st of January, 1964.

(c) Capital gains tax is payable on the sale of a residential house. The existing law provides that if another residential house is either purchased or constructed within a specified time, then the capital gains can be wholly or partially exempted depending upon the amount of capital gains utilised on the new residential house. Similar concessions are not available in respect of capital gains arising from sale of assets, such as jewellery or shares. I see no reason for drawing such a distinction. Accordingly, I propose to exempt the capital gains from tax, if the sale proceeds of any asset are reinvested within six months in shares, bank deposits, units of the Unit Trust or other preferred assets. In order to prevent abuse of this concession, it is required that the assets in which the sale proceeds have been reinvested are held for a period of not less than three years.

73. Sickness among industrial undertakings is a matter of grave national concern. Closure of any sizeable manufacturing unit in any industry entails social costs in terms of loss of production and employment, and also waste of valuable capital assets. Experience has shown that taking over of such units by Government is not always the most satisfactory or the most economical solution. A more effective course would be to facilitate the voluntary amalgamation of sick industrial units

with sound ones by providing certain incentives and by removing impediments in the way of such amalgamation. It is accordingly proposed to provide that where an amalgamation is accepted by the Central Government to be in public interest, the accumulated losses and unabsorbed depreciation of the amalgamating company will be allowed to be carried forward and set off in the hands of the amalgamated company.

74. With a view to encouraging companies to involve themselves in the work of rural welfare and uplift, I propose to provide that expenditure incurred by them on approved programmes of rural development will be allowed to be deducted in computing their taxable profits.

75. In order to give a direct stimulus for the setting up of small-scale industrial undertakings in rural areas, I intend to accord preferential tax treatment to industries which are set up in such areas, and which begin their manufacturing activity after 30th June, 1977. Such industrial undertakings will be entitled to a deduction in the computation of their taxable profits of an amount equal to 20 per cent. of the profits. The concession will be available for each of ten years commencing from the year in which the undertaking begins its manufacturing activities.

76. Under a provision made last year, companies were given the option, instead of paying 5 per cent. surcharge on income-tax, to deposit an equivalent amount with the Industrial Development Bank of India for a period of five years. I propose for a withdraw this option. The Budget accordingly takes credit for an additional tax receipt of Rs. 56 crores on this account.

77. The amount of donations for charitable purposes qualifying for tax exemption is limited to 10 per cent. of the gross total income of the donor, subject further to a monetary ceiling of Rs. 2 lakhs. It is felt that this ceiling is unduly restrictive and only discourages more liberal donations to deserving charities. I propose accordingly that the monetary ceiling be raised from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs.

78. Fifty per cent. of the remuneration received by Indian technicians from a foreign Government or a foreign enterprise for services rendered outside India is exempt from income-tax. We cannot justifiably deny this concession when the employer happens to be an Indian concern. I propose accordingly to enlarge the scope of this concession to cover Indian technicians employed by Indian concerns in any branch or office outside India.

79. Deduction of tax from small dividends has been a source of considerable hardship to a large number of small investors in joint stock companies. With a view to avoiding inconvenience to such investors, and in particular to investors from rural areas, the requirement of deduction of tax at source from dividends will be waived in cases where the dividend pand does not exceed Rs. 250.

80. Under a provision made by the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act, 1975, charitable or religious trusts and institutions are required to invest their funds in certain forms and modes specified in the Income-tax Act. Any trust or institution which does not conform to the prescribed pattern of investment in any accounting year commencing on or after 1st April, 1978, would lose exemption from income-tax. Having regard to practical difficulties involved and to ensure a more orderly change-over in their pattern of investment in the line with the new provisions, the date for change-over to the new investment pattern is proposed to be extended by three years, i.e., from 1st April, 1978 to 1st April, 1981.

81. I have taken credit for increasing the surcharge on income-tax and increasing the rates of wealth-tax. The loss of revenue involved in exempting individuals, Hindu undivided families, etc. with an annual income up to Rs. 10,000 has also been taken note of. The overall effect of all the

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direct tax proposals would be a gain to the Centre's revenue of Rs. 92 crores in the current year.

82. As Hon'ble Members are aware, the direct taxes statutes have become increasingly complicated and incomprehensible over the years. It is, therefore, necessary to take immediate action for the simplification and rationalisation of these laws with a view to making them readily intelligible to the taxpayers, reducing litigation, and, thus, subserving the interest of the national economy. It is also necessary to examine ways and means of improving the administration of these laws and expediting assessment, appellate and other proceedings under these laws. It has, therefore, been decided to appoint a Committee of eminent experts to make recommendations for the simplification and rationalisation of the direct tax laws. It is my intention to ask the Committee to submit its report before the end of the year.

INDIRECT TAXES

83. Now I come to my proposals with regard to indirect taxes. My proposals concerning central excise fall into three categories, the first relates to proposals for raising additional resources, the second to reduction or abolition of excise duties, and the last set of proposals seeks to rationalise and simplify the duty structure.

84. A 10 per cent excise duty is proposed to be levied on the following five items: (i) hand tools, and small tools not already excisable, (ii) weighing machines and weigh bridges, (iii) watches, clocks and time-pieces, (iv) electric light fittings and (v) polishes for footwear, metals, cars, etc. It is also proposed to levy an excise duty of 12 per cent on acetylene gas. Small scale manufacturers of hand tools and small tools, electric light fittings and polishes, will, however, be exempted in respect of their production up to Rs. 1 lakh. These levies are expected to yield a revenue of Rs. 11 crores in a year.

85. As Hon'ble Members are aware, in 1975, as an experimental measure, a 1 per cent general excise duty was levied on commodities which did not attract excise duties under any specific heads. The experiment has succeeded in the sense that without imposing any undue burden or harassment we were able to collect an appreciable sum of money, namely Rs. 37 crores. When we stand in need of additional resources, it seems eminently suitable to raise this rate to 2 per cent. In order to minimise the cascading effect, a set off will be given where these goods go into the manufacture of other goods that are themselves excisable.

86. Realising that under this excise head fall a large number of small units producing a variety of goods I have provided that no duty will be levied on any unit whose annual turn over does not exceed Rs. 30 lakhs. This will replace the existing exemption based on the number of workers. I am also exempting all non-power operated units from this levy.

87. Further, small newspapers have already been exempted from this levy. It is now proposed to extend this exemption to medium newspapers also. The big newspapers will continue to pay duty at the existing rate of 1 per cent.

88. The net additional yield from this group of proposals is expected to be of the order of Rs. 30 crores in a year.

89. I now come to the hardy annual, namely tobacco products. At present the rate of *ad valorem* duty on cigarettes increases as the value of cigarettes goes up. The progression in the existing rates is now proposed to be raised. In regard to branded biris it is proposed to raise the existing duty of rupee one per thousand to rupees two per thousand. These levies are estimated to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 45 crores in a year.

90. The present system of taxing cinematograph films is based primarily

on the length and the nature of the film, and the number of prints. I intend changing the basis and adopting the value criterion, the revised duty being 10 per cent *ad valorem*. This is a much fairer criterion.

91. The present specific rates of duty on pigments, paints, enamels, varnishes etc. are proposed to be replaced by *ad valorem* rates. These are being so adjusted that the duty on the high cost items such as oil-bound paints, enamels, plastic emulsions and varnishes will increase by about 5 per cent generally, while that on the cheaper items like blacks and dry distemper will remain more or less unchanged. These changes are estimated to yield Rs. 4.8 crores in a year.

92. The excise duty on motor vehicles is also being raised. The rate of duty on motor cars is to go up by 2½ per cent to 17½ per cent. Similarly, the rate of duty on two-wheeler and three-wheeler motor vehicles is proposed to be raised from 9 per cent to 12½ per cent. Since I propose simultaneously to exempt from excise duty tyres, tubes and batteries supplied as original equipment, the net increase in duty for the two and three wheelers will be about 2¼ per cent. These changes will yield a net revenue of Rs. 5.1 crores annually.

93. I come now to proposals for reduction or abolition of excise duties. The first industry to benefit is the handloom. At present only cotton yarn supplied in straight reel hanks is exempt from excise duty. It is now proposed to exempt also cotton yarn in cross reel hanks up to 20s counts. It is also proposed to exempt cotton yarn of higher counts in cross reel hanks to the extent of 30 paise per kilogram. Further, I propose to extend similar concessions in respect of viscose spun yarn, because the handloom sector is now consuming substantial quantities of that yarn.

94. The next beneficiary is the powerloom sector. I propose to exempt it from the existing compounded excise levy. This will free about 80,000 powerloom licensees from excise control.

95. Handloom and powerloom fabrics have to pay excise duty when they are subjected to various finishing processes, but an exemption is given if bleaching, dyeing and printing is done without the aid of power. It is now proposed to extend this concession to all other types of processing, such as stentering and mercerising done without the aid of power.

96. The yarn crimping industry is today suffering from excess capacity and the difference in price between crimped yarn and base yarn cannot sustain the present rate of duty. It is, therefore, proposed to reduce the duty on crimped yarn from Rs. 10 per kilogram to Rs. 5 per kilogram.

97. I propose to reduce the duty on power driven pumps used for pumping water from 10 per cent to 5 per cent and to exempt power tillers from the general excise levy. Both these concessions will be of particular value to small farmers.

98. Small paper mills have been passing through difficult times—a few of them have even closed down. I, therefore, propose to reduce the duty leviable on paper produced by these mills, the relief varying on a graded basis from 75 per cent to 50 per cent of the excise duty leviable, dependent upon the installed capacity of the mill. This concession will be subject to the use of non-conventional raw materials and waste paper to the extent of at least 50 per cent. Even larger paper mills if they use non-conventional raw materials to the extent of at least 50 per cent will get a duty relief of 33-1/3 per cent of the excise duty leviable. This concession is designed to conserve our fast depleting timber resources.

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99. In the match industry, small cottage units are finding it difficult to compete successfully with the bigger units. To help such of these units as are members of registered cooperative societies or are certified as such by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, I propose to double the existing concession of 55 paise for a gross of match boxes. I need hardly say that these units have a large employment potential.

100. Mini steel plants are also in difficulties. Their position could be improved if they were provided with fresh melting scrap from the main steel plants without payment of excise duty. I, therefore, propose to exempt from excise duty the identifiable types of fresh melting scrap cleared from the main steel plants as raw material for the mini steel plants.

101. The revenue from electric insulating tapes and slotted angles is low and further, has to be collected from a number of small producers. I, therefore, propose to delete these articles from the list of specific items in the Central Excise Tariff.

102. The production of boiled sweets, toffees, candies, etc. has been going down. Sugar, which is a basic raw material, is already subjected to a high excise duty as also are packaging paper and containers used in the confectionery industry. I, therefore, propose to delete these confectionery articles also from the list of specific items in the Central Excise Tariff.

103. Electronics is one of our growing and promising industries, and offers great scope for development in the small scale sector. The various concessions that are proposed here are designed to help the growth of that sector. At present the duty on electronic items is on a varying basis, some being specific and others *ad valorem*. It is now proposed to make the basis uniformly *ad valorem*. The large manufacturers producing radios and transistor sets, tape recorders, tape recorder-cum-radios, stereos and hi-fi musical systems will pay duty varying from 15 per cent. to 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, depending on the item and the ex-factory price. It is proposed to give small manufacturers a uniform concession of 15 per cent. *ad valorem* in the rate of duty, that is to say, the corresponding rates of duty that they will pay will vary from nil to 20 per cent. *ad valorem*.

104. Experience has shown that a judiciously adjusted excise structure acts as a powerful incentive to manufacturers of electronic goods to reduce their prices. We propose to continue with this experiment further. In the case of T. V. sets the 5 per cent concessional rate of excise duty will henceforth be available only where the ex-factory price of a T.V. set with a screen exceeding 36 centimeters is Rs. 1600 or less, instead of the existing limit of Rs. 1800. In the case of tape recorders, there will be a concessional rate if the ex-factory price does not exceed Rs. 500. For electronic calculators too, there will be a concessional rate for calculators if the ex-factory price does not exceed Rs. 175.

105. I shall now expound my proposals concerning rationalisation. We are at present collecting excise duty on woollen yarn from a number of small spinners. This has led to evasion and other malpractices. It is, therefore, proposed to replace the excise duty leviable on woollen yarn by an increase in the customs duty at the stage of import of raw wool, waste wool and rags. As regards wool tops also, with a view to minimising evasion, it is proposed to reduce the present rate of excise duty of Rs. 10 per kg. to Rs. 5 per kg. and to make good the loss by increasing the import duty on raw wool suitably. Both these measures should result in making fabrics using indigenous wool cheaper.

106. Most steel re-rollers produce bars, rods, angles, etc. which attract an excise duty of Rs. 130 per tonne in addition to the duty already paid on ingots. It is proposed to shift this duty of Rs. 130 per tonne from the re-

rollers to the ingot manufacturers, namely, the main steel plants or the mini steel plants.

107. The existing scheme of excise duty on cotton yarn is based on a slab system where several counts are grouped together, and provides for sharp increases in the rates of duty when the count of yarn increases from one slab to another. This duty structure encourages under-spinning of cotton in order to avoid payment of duty at the higher rate and leads to wasteful use of cotton. Evasion too is not easy to check. To remove these defects, a new schedule of rates has been proposed where the duty rises gradually with each unit increase in the count of yarn. The new rates include a duty of half a paisa per count to enable Government to recoup the loss incurred by exempting powerlooms and hand processors from the excise duty, to which I have referred earlier. As a further measure of rationalisation, viscose spun yarn is proposed to be subjected to the same rates of excise duty as cotton yarn.

108. Last year, a system of *ad valorem* rates for cotton fabrics was introduced. The rates were, however, dependent on the count of the yarn used in the fabric. To rationalise the structure, I propose to adopt the *ad valorem* system irrespective of the count of the yarn and with a high degree of progression built into it. The new duty structure has been so devised as to yield approximately the same revenue from cotton fabrics and yarn as is collected at present from these items taken together.

109. As regards the cloth produced by powerlooms, it will be exempt if it is sold grey or is processed by hand processor, but if it is processed by independent power-operated processors, the rate of duty will be 50 per cent. of the composite yarn and fabric rate paid by the mill fabrics.

110. A major reform which is proposed to be introduced relates to the nomenclature and classification of textile yarns and fabrics. Henceforth, yarn or fabric would ordinarily be classified on the basis of the fibre which predominates by weight. The new system will be much simpler and will remove many working difficulties. Further, the blending of polyester fibre up to one-sixth of the total fibre content will not change the classification of the yarn. This should enable the textile industry to use more polyester fibre without attracting higher duty on the yarn produced, and would be in furtherance of a multi-fibre policy which the Government is in the process of evolving.

111. Pursuant to the Government's acceptance of the recommendation of the Sixth Finance Commission, from 1976-77 onwards, auxiliary duties of excise have become shareable with the States in the same way as basic duties of excise. Thus, the justification for levying auxiliary duties separately has now disappeared. In order to simplify the structure and to eliminate unnecessary calculations, I have decided to merge the auxiliary duties with the basic duties of excise.

112. I have also carried out a number of minor modifications in the Central Excise Tariff, which I do not propose to detail here. Full details of these changes are, of course, given in the Budget documents.

113. The total of the additional central excise levies is estimated to yield Rs. 106.3 crores in a year. The total concessions given will mean a sacrifice of Rs. 15.7 crores in a year. The net yearly increase in central excise levies is thus estimated at Rs. 90.6 crores. However, because of the transfer of the duty on woollen yarn and wool tops to imports, there will be a transfer of Rs. 17 crores from Central Excise head to Customs head, thus giving a net increase of Rs. 73.6 crores under the Central Excise head. Of this, the additional revenue accruing to the Centre in a year will be Rs. 53.8 crores, while the States' share will be Rs. 19.8 crores.

[Shri H. M. Patel]

114. Finally, I come to customs duties in respect of which I have to submit only a few proposals. Indigenous production of watches does not fully satisfy the domestic demand. As a result, considerable quantities of foreign watches are known to be smuggled into the country. Government have accordingly decided to make good the deficiency still remaining by allowing the import of watches through Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. In order that the indigenously manufactured watches and imported watches are available to the public at reasonable prices I am reducing the import duty on watch parts and watches from 120 per cent. to 50 per cent. *ad valorem*

115. I am proposing also to reduce the import duty on newsprint from 5 per cent. to 2½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

116. I would now make certain proposals designed to stimulate industrial growth and to enhance the competitiveness of our industry. In order to introduce a measure of competition, it is proposed to allow the import of certain selected items of capital goods without prior scrutiny from the indigenous angle. At the same time, in order to enable the Indian capital goods industry to meet foreign competition more effectively, I propose to bring down the rate of import duty on copper wire bars used for the manufacture of certain larger sized electrical motors, generators and transformers from the existing level of 45 per cent plus Rs. 5,600 per tonne to 40 per cent *ad valorem*. Similarly, the rate of duty on cold rolled non-grain-oriented sheets, alloy steel, tool steel, special steel, and high carbon steel is also proposed to be brought down from 75 per cent to 40 per cent. Further, stainless steel plates, sheets and strips of 16 gauge and thicker which are used in the manufacture of capital goods and which are to-day charged to 120 per cent or 320 per cent duty depending on the gauge, are proposed in future to be charged to 40 per cent duty only. Utensil grade stainless steel of 22 gauge and thinner, which to-day attracts a duty of 320 per cent, will be charged to import duty at 120 per cent. Varying rates of duty are proposed to be fixed for the intervening gauges, taking into account the possibility of re-rolling imported products. It is estimated that the reduction in duties on these copper and steel items will mean a revenue sacrifice of the order of Rs. 36.25 crores at the existing level of imports.

117. The effect of the increases in Customs duties proposed by me will be an additional revenue of Rs. 15.5 crores in a year. The reliefs total Rs. 37.7 crores in a year thus resulting in a net reduction of Rs. 22.2 crores. But taking into account the transfer of Rs. 17 crores from the Central Excise head to the Customs head, the overall effect of the budget proposals on Customs revenue will be a reduction of Rs. 5.2 crores in a year.

118. Taking Union Excise duties and Customs duties together, the net yield for the Centre in a year will be Rs. 48.6 crores. The yield during the remaining part of the current financial year will be Rs. 38.2 crores.

119. My proposals will yield, in all, Rs. 130 crores for the Centre in the current year. The deficit of Rs. 202 crores which I mentioned earlier will, thus, be reduced to Rs. 72 crores. This is a relatively small amount and is unlikely to have any inflationary effect.

Conclusion

120. With this I have come to the end of my labours. My aim in this budget is to stimulate the economy into achieving a higher rate of growth of output and employment, and simultaneously to ensure that the fruits of economic progress are as widespread as possible. The emphasis on investment in agriculture, small and village industries and rural infrastructure is designed to achieve these objectives. My tax proposals seek to enlarge the pool of national savings while strengthening the role of taxation in reducing disparities of income and wealth. I have taken special care to widen opportunities for the small man—be he

a farmer, an artisan or a technocrat. It would be futile to pretend that we can achieve at one stroke the full utilization of the latent energies represented by our vast human resources. But a beginning has to be made. I venture to think that this Budget marks such a beginning.

121. My party has emphasised liberty. But liberty does not mean freedom to starve and freedom to feel unwanted. Large-scale poverty and unemployment degrade those who have to suffer them, and debase those who tolerate them. We owe it to ourselves to see that these twin scourges are eradicated as quickly as possible. We have a long and a difficult road ahead of us. But there can be no doubt about our commitment to our goals and ideals. I believe we are on the right course, and this Budget represents the first step, however small, in that direction.

FINANCE (NO. 2) BILL, 1977*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1977-78.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1977-78."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Sir, I introduce† the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House stands adjourned. We meet again tomorrow at 11 a.m.

18.20 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, June 18, 1977/Jyaistha 28, 1899 (Saka).

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†Introduced with recommendation of the Vice-President acting as President.

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